MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

23 MARCH 1981

Iran

Khomeyni Speech--Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni told the nation on 20 March that because of "certain events" Iran has recently been neglecting its "main enemies," the superpowers. In his message, carried by Tehran radio, he warned that Iran should not forget that it faces "traitors" throughout the world. Asking that all Iranians, especially politicians, learn from the "bitter experience" of the "rift" that reached a peak in recent months, Khomeyni appealed to them to cooperate with each other in rebuilding the country. He told the ulema to contribute through positive guidance and sermons rather than through criticism and faultfinding and specifically asked the clergy not to be influenced by "biased groups."

Khomeyni reiterated his support and that of the nation for the "entire" armed forces, asking them to ignore rumors and continue their fight. He criticized some members of the intelligentsia for their opposition to the government and said their actions will drive Iran toward "destruction and death."

Instructing those in charge of judicial institutions to ensure that the courts remain free of "deviations," Khomeyni stressed that, under Islam, all are equal before the law, including even his relatives. Anyone who oppresses others "in my name," he said, is a criminal.

Bani-Sadr New Year Messages--In a message to the nation on the occasion of the Iranian new year, President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr stressed the need for "perseverance" against difficulties, "awareness," which requires uncensored media, and "true unity." His message, broadcast by Tehran radio, called on those who are "tired" and who have left Iran to return and to help solve the country's problems.

The radio also broadcast a message by Bani-Sadr to the armed forces in which he repeated his call for perseverance and stressed that the nation is standing united behind the armed forces.

Raja'i Statements--Tehran radio reported that Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i and his Cabinet met with President Bani-Sadr on 22 March. In a radio interview after the meeting, Raja'i said he hopes there will be more joint meetings between the Cabinet and the president. Such meetings, he indicated, would clarify the "obscure situations" resulting from Bani-Sadr's previous absence from Cabinet meetings due to his involvement in the war.

In a 20 March New Year's address carried by the radio, Raja'i made his first broadcast reference to Khomeyni's 16 March guidelines, saying they have resolved the "critical situation" in Iran.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Bani-Sadr Speech--According to Tehran radio, President Bani-Sadr told ambassadors to Iran who met with him on 21 March that Iran would "very much like" to see an end to the war with Iraq. In his speech, reported by the radio, Bani-Sadr told the envoys that the true cause of the war is not the dispute over the Shatt al-'Arab but the Iraqi regime's intention to "disgrace" Iran and take away the gains of its revolution. Iran, he asserted, has said from the beginning that it accepts the 1975 Algiers agreement between Iran and Iraq and would like to resolve differences on the basis of the treaty. It is still prepared to do so, he added, but is not prepared to surrender.

Bani-Sadr said that the peace proposals made by the Islamic good offices committee included "some good points" and "correspond to our conditions." He added, however, that the proposals did not specify the "basis" of the proposed talks, since they did not make it clear who

started the war and how its "results" are to be "evaluated." The best way to end the war, he said, is to "recognize the side which is in the right and to defend it."

Protest to Kuwait--Tehran radio reported that an Iranian Supreme Defense Council publicity official met Kuwait's Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad on 22 March in that country. He criticized Kuwait for reportedly putting ports and facilities at Iraq's disposal to transport military supplies, the radio said, and told the Kuwaiti minister that this has had and will have "unsatisfactory effects" on Iran's relations with Kuwait.

Military Situation--Citing the newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH, INA reported that a battle "raged" near Susangerd on 20 and 21 March in which Iraqi forces checked an Iranian attack, launching a counteroffensive and destroying the Iranian force. It added that Iraqi forces also attacked an Iranian "support force" on the east bank of the Karkheh Kur River.

Iranian military reports carried by Tehran radio over the weekend referred to a 5-day battle in which Iranian forces captured the Neykhazar and Helali heights, killing 570 Iraqis. The radio also reported intense fighting on the Meymak, Gilan-e Gharb and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab fronts and Iraqi artillery and missile attacks on Abadan, Dezful and Ahvaz. It claimed that an Iraqi aircraft was downed over western Iran.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Syrian-Jordanian Relations--During a speech in Al-Karamah on 21 March, a recording of which was broadcast by Amman radio, Jordan's King Husayn accused Syria of finding excuses for argument with Jordan and others in the Arab world in an effort to cover up its failures. In order to ensure its survival, he added, the Syrian regime is also trying to divide the Arab world into pro-Western and pro-Eastern factions and to internationalize the "Arab-Zionist" conflict. In this goal, he said, Syria "agrees" with Zionism. He went on to criticize Syria's support for Iran in the Iran-Iraq war, charging that Syria wants Iraq to be defeated so that the Gulf will be undefended and Arab land exposed to danger. Stressing that Jordan's faith in the people of Syria remains unshaken, King Husayn concluded by pledging that Jordan will continue to work for the Arab "nation," particularly the Palestinian cause.

Responding to King Husayn's speech, a 21 March Damascus radio report called it a "campaign of feverish abuses" against Syria and its government, which have viewed King Husayn's contacts with Israeli politicians as part of his continuous "plotting" against the Palestinian cause. Citing political observers in Amman, the radio said that the king was forced to say "anything" to divert Arab attention after his "Israeli friends" embarrased him by revealing his meetings with them.

Palestinians on Contacts with Peres--The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) has condemned recent reported contacts between Israeli Labor Party leader Shim'on Peres and the kings of Morocco and Jordan. A PFLP-GC official spokesman, in a statement reported by Damascus radio on 22 March, said the recent meeting between Peres and a member of King Husayn's family in London constitutes a new link in Husayn's "treasonous contacts" with Israel. He called on the PLO to stop all dialogue with King Husayn and his regime.

Earlier, the Voice of Palestine radio reported that Fatah Central Committee member Majid Abu Sharar has denounced the recent meetings between Peres and King Hassan and King Husayn's brother. Fatah is studying these contacts, Abu Sharar said, and will announce its attitude toward Kings Hassan and Husayn.

Egypt

Request for UN Force--Cairo radio reported that Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali has instructed Egypt's chief UN delegate to discuss with the UN secretary general and the permanent members of the Security Council the possibility of forming a UN emergency force to supervise Israel's withdrawal from the Sinai. He said that Egypt will seek a "multinational" force only if efforts to establish a UN force fail.

Relations With Sudan--Citing AL-AHRAM, MENA reported on 19 March that Egypt and Sudan were to restore full diplomatic relations "within the next few weeks." On 21 March the news agency quoted an official source at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry as saying that the two countries had each approved the ambassador nominated by the other. Relations between Egypt and Sudan were downgraded in December of 1979, when both sides withdrew their ambassadors.

Lebanon

Force Deployment--A Lebanese Army unit and Nigerian, Netherlands and Irish UN forces took up positions on the hills surrounding the southern village of Al-Qantarah on 20 March, Beirut radio reported. They had evacuated the area earlier in the week after three Nigerian soldiers were killed by artillery fire from the Christian militia forces of Maj Sa'd Haddad.

Embassy Attacked--Voice of Lebanon radio reported that early on 22 March armed men fired at the U.S. Embassy from a moving car.

Saudi-YAR Relations

YAR Foreign Minister 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thwar arrived in Riyadh on 21 March, SPA reported. A later SPA report said that he met with Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. According to San'a' radio, the YAR interior minister left for a visit to Saudi Arabia the next day. Before leaving, the minister praised the "strong relations" between the two countries and said that he was carrying a message from President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The visits come in the wake of an unconfirmed 18 March report by the Libyan news agency of recent clashes between Saudi and YAR forces on their border.

Libya

According to AFP, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi said in an interview with Luxembourg radio and television that his country is not allied with the Soviet Union because such an alliance would lead to a change in the superpower "balance of forces" in the Middle East and Mediterranean area. Libya, he said, would oppose such a change. Al-Qadhdhafi also said that he considers the manufacture of atomic bombs to be a "crime against humanity." He added that Libya does not intend to produce them and expressed support for the destruction of all nuclear weapons.

Afghanistan

Citing diplomatic sources in New Delhi, AFP reported that Gen Baba Jan, chief of the general staff, was removed from his post early in March following rumors in Kabul of antigovernment plotting. According to the report, Deputy Minister of Agriculture Abdul Gaffar Lakanawal was arrested at the same time.

Pakistan

According to Karachi radio, the current chairman of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), an alliance of political parties opposing the regime of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, called on 21 March for the expulsion of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) from the movement. Accusing it of involvement in the recent hijacking of a Pakistani airliner, he said that the PPP had violated the alliance by resorting to "terrorism." He also called for a suspension of MRD activities.

AFP reported that MRD spokesman Naffes Siddiqi later said the chairman had no right to make such decisions. He denied that any action would be taken against the PPP or that it was involved in the hijacking.

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ABU SHARAR: ACTS MUST FORCE U.S. INTO SETTLEMENT

LD230953 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 14 Mar 81 p 9

[Al Quds press interview with Fatah Central Committee member Majid Abu Sharar--date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Beirut--[Question] There has been much talk recently about a European initiative on the Middle East. What really is this initiative? And what is the Palestinian revolution's attitude to it?

[Answer] There is no European initiative; there are European ideas which have been formulated into a paper and distributed to a number of Arab states. These ideas were the result of long discussions among the EEC states on the Middle East as a contribution to finding a solution to the problem. It can be said that these European ideas on the Middle East have failed miserably on two counts:

1. They failed to recognize the PLO as the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people by finding it sufficient to use the expression "Palestinians." This formula is entirely rejected by the Palestinian revolution, because the Palestinians are a people and have a leadership as such represented by the PLO.

2. The European ideas failed to transcend the Camp David agreements but, in the final analysis, rather complimented them. They tried to have Jordan participate in all the steps which this initiative wants implemented to reach a solution to the Middle East problem. They provide for withdrawal from the territories occupied in 1967 but then suggest necessary border amendments which must be negotiated. For the right to self-determination they substitute the expression: "having the Palestinians participate in determining their future."

A comprehensive reading of the European ideas will reveal that Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian people are to participate in determining the Palestinian people's future. For this reason these ideas express nothing but the American-Israeli view of a solution in the area and, therefore, provide no answer. This prompted France to back down from the initiative as Britain did before it. Therefore, we can say that the European initiative died before it was born, because the West European states failed to pursue a policy independent of U.S. policy with regard to the Middle East.

[Question] President Carter's administration played a principle part in the achievement of the Camp David agreements. Do you believe that the new American administration will alter America's traditional stance on the Middle East?

[Answer] The correct question is: Why should the United States change its Middle East policy? What have the Arabs done to America to make it change its policy? America views the area only in the light of its interests, particularly the oil interests. Israel's role is to protect America's interests in the area. Therefore, one must not continue to view the establishment of Israel as a possible solution to the Jewish problem. The fact is that Israel was established to protect the interests of colonialism and imperialist in the area. Once we agree that this is the case, we can say that the only way to make America adopt a new policy in the area is to threaten its interests. When America finds itself compelled to choose between continuing support for and reinforcement of Israel and America's threatened interests, it will undoubtedly choose its interests and adopt a new policy of reconciling its interests with the interests of the area's peoples, including the Palestinian people. One does not have to be very intelligent to realize this. America's friends in the area are aware of it. Therefore, the problem lies in our Arab policy. If we created new realities in the interest of our people in the area, America would have to go along with these realities immediately and could not disregard them.

For this reason we were not wrong when we said in Fatah's political program that America is at the head of the hostile force's camp, that those who are diligently dealing with the Arab-Israeli conflict are the ones who believe in this fact and that the concentration of attacks on Israel and As-Sadat and not on America is an exposed operation of turning away from facing the facts.

[Question] Most observers expect Israel to launch large-scale aggression against south Lebanon, while others believe that this is unlikely because the new American administration is engaged in a cold war with the Soviets. What is your opinion on this? And what preparations has the Palestinian revolution made to confront the expected aggression?

[Answer] Because of the tension prevailing in American-Soviet relations as a result of Reagan's arrogant policy and his attempts to flex his muscles in more than one place in the world, Lebanon could be in the forefront of the states in which America intends to flex its muscles, because America has two local instruments which it can use whenever it wishes in triggering the situation. These two instruments are Israel and the Lebanese isolationist forces. By triggering the situation in Lebanon, America hopes to direct a blow against the Palestinian revolution and Syria, which is assuming responsibilities in Lebanon through the Arab Deterrent Forces. America also aims to weaken the nationalist movement and to impose capitulation on the entire area. By striking these three forces, America wants to draw up a new political map for the area--a map that is in the interest of America and Israel's continued existence as a supreme military force. We have information indicating that a wide-scale attack is likely to be launched by the Israelis and the isolationists not only against our positions in the south but also against west Beirut and some areas in Jabal Lubnan. Several meetings have been held between these two at which agreement was reached to carry out this operation.

The position of the three target forces--the resistance, Syria and the Lebanese nationalist forces--is good. We will be able to stand fast in the expected battle because our intrinsic forces have been developed and are now much better than during the 8-day war and the 2-year war. Moreover, the relations between the three target parties are firm. All attempts to weaken these relations have failed. We are not isolated forces; we have the support of a broad international front of alliances and friendships, particularly our firm relations with the Soviet Union, which adopts a clear policy of support for us.

In any future battle we will prove to the whole world that the liberation forces, which U.S. President Reagan has described as terrorist, have taken the opportunity to rise and to assert themselves and are capable of achieving victory. The strong and capable America is now replaced by a weak and hesitant America bogged down by internal problems.

FATAH OFFICIAL ON PERES, ARAB LEADERS MEETING

NC201901 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Text] Fatah Central Committee member Majid Abu Sharar has denounced the meeting which Shim'on Peres [Israeli Labor Party leader] held with King Hassan II and the brother of King Husayn saying that the object of these meetings is to impel Jordan to hold negotiations along the lines of the Camp David pattern. Abu Sharar added that King Hassan was planning to push Israel and Jordan to start new negotiations on the basis of the Camp David accord. He recalled that in 1977 King Hassan II arranged a meeting between Moshe Dayan [former Israeli foreign minister] and Egyptian officials and that the meeting culminated in the signing of the Camp David agreement by the Egyptian regime and the Zionist entity.

Brother Abu Sharar emphasized that the Palestinians would rejct any meetings between King Hassan and the Zionists saying: We are studying these steps and we will announce our attitude toward Kings Hassan and Husayn.

FATAH CALLS FOR ACTION AGAINST SUDAN-EGYPT TIES

NC221309 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1115 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] Commenting on the Sudanese Government's decision to restore diplomatic relations with As-Sadat's regime, Fatah Central Committee member Majid Abu Sharar said that this decision constitutes a violation of the 1978 Arab summit conference resolution and comes after the deportation of the PLO representative in Sudan and Numayri's announcement of his willingness to have U.S. bases in Sudan.

Brother Abu Sharar called for an urgent Arab official move by the Arab League secretary general to have the Arab states live up to their responsibilities under the Baghdad summit resolutions.

PALESTINIANS TAKE JABALYAH ATTACK RESPONSIBILITY

JN201708 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Text] Palestinian revolutionaries carried out an attack with handgrenades against two enemy military vehicles in the center of the town of Jabalyah in the Gaza Strip yesterday. All the passengers in the cars were killed or wounded. The following is the military statement issued by the General Command of the Palestinian revolution forces: Our revolutionaires from the martyr Rafiq as-Salimi groups, this afternoon, Thursday, 19 March 1981, launched an attack using handgrenades against an enemy military vehicle which was patrolling the center of Jabalyah in the Gaza Strip. The vehicle was damaged and the occupants were killed or wounded.

When enemy military forces surrounded the area after the operation, our revolutionaries of the same group launched another attack with handgrenades in the evening of the same day against another military vehicle. The vehicle was greatly damaged and all its occupants were killed or wounded.

Immediately after that Zionist occupation forces, which hurried in great numbers to the area following the two successive attacks, imposed a curfew, launched a campaign of arrests and stormed houses in the town and camp of Jabalyah where scores of Palestinian citizens were arrested on the pretext that they were suspects. Our revolutionaries returned safely to base.

'ARAFAT ATTENDS AAPSO SESSION; VISITS PDRY, YAR

PDRY Arrival

NC220812 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Brother-Leader Abu'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] arrived in Aden yesterday to attend the 13th AAPSO Council session which began yesterday. He was received by Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the PDRY, and party and government leaders.

In a statement he made on arrival, Brother Abu 'Ammar said that the Arab nation, especially the states of the Middle East, is passing through a critical phase which makes it necessary to meet the Zionist and imperialist challenges. He added that he will discuss with PDRY officials the question of drawing up a joint plan for confronting the imperialist plots being hatched against the Arab nation.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also said: Our participation in this international conference is within the framework of facing these difficult and delicate circumstances, whether inside the occupied homeland, Palestine, or in Lebanon, the Mediterranean and Red Seas, the Indian Ocean and the Arab Gulf, which are the focal points in the imperialist offensive led by the United States which is encircling this area with three fleets.

Concluding his statement the brother commander in chief greeted the fraternal Yemeni people, wishing them victory and prosperity under their fraternal and friendly leaders.

Brother Abu 'Ammar was accompanied by Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, Salah, and 'Abbas Zaki.

Meeting With 'Ali Nasir

JN221744 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Brother-Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and the delegation accompanying him met today with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the Supreme People's Presidium in the PDRY and secretary general of the YSP, and brother members of the YSP Politburo, Abubakr 'Abd ar-Raziq, [name indistinct], Dhib Salih, 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, (Mu'tallah) al-Khamiri, 'Ali [name indistinct] and Foreign Minister Salim Salih Muhammad.

Our correspondent learned that bilateral relations, the Arab and international situations, developments in the region and the challenges faced by our Arab nation in light of the threats of imperialism, Zionism and their agents in the region were discussed. An atmosphere of friendship and mutual frankness prevailed at the meeting. Viewpoints on the topics discussed were identical.

YAR Arrival

NC230824 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat's] talks with YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih will begin in San'a' this morning. Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar arrived in San'a' last night accompanied by Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Fatah Central Committee. He was welcomed at the airport by YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, the vice president, ministers and senior state officials.

QADDUMI ARRIVES IN MALTA; MAKES STATEMENT

NC220917 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO's Political Department, arrived in Malta Yesterday as the guest of Maltese Prime Minsiter Dom Mintoff, with whom he will hold talks on issues of mutual interest. Brother Abu al-Lutf will also attend the celebration marking the Arab League day organized by the Arab-Maltese Friendship Association.

Referring to the chances of peace in the Middle East, Brother Abu al-Lutf said: Peace has been unattainable because of the Israeli position. The PLO, however, considers all possibilities of establishing peace.

After Malta Brother Abu al-Lutf will go to Tunisia where he will attend the Arab League meeting.

KUWAIT

DEPUTY PREMIER ON RDF, BREZHNEV GULF PLAN

LD201407 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 18 Mar 81 p 5

[Interview granted by Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and acting Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad to Ayman Habib in Kuwait--date not specified]

[Excerpt] [Question] What does Kuwait think of reports from Washington, London and other places regarding a joint force for rapid deployment in the Gulf?

[Answer] We are capable of defending ourselves, our nation and our stability with all the faith, resolve and strength we can muster. With regard to U.S. hints about intervention in the area and the building up of U.S. forces, we have already declared our views on and condemned such hints because we do not approve of interference in our internal affairs, militarily or in any other way.

[Question] What is your opinion of Brezhnev's plan for what he called neutralizing the area?

[Answer] With regard to Brezhnev's plan we have made public our views on it frankly and we published it in the media. We hope that the Soviet president will back up his plan with good will and decide to withdraw from Afghanistan. We always and at all times support solving problems peacefully and through good will.

NO AL-QADHDHAFI INVITATION TO ARAB SUMMIT RECEIVED

LD220905 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0708 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] Kuwait, 22 Mar (KUNA)--Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn denied today that Kuwait has received an invitation said to have been issued by Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to participate in an Arab summit conference to discuss Sudan's decision to resume relations with Egypt.

Husayn was commenting, in a statement to AL-QABAS published here today, on a report carried yesterday by the Cairo weekly AKHBAR AL-YAWM which said that Al-Qadhdhafi has sent messages to the leaders of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, the UAE, Jordan, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and YAR proposing the holding of such a summit.

Husayn said that the Kuwaiti Government knows nothing about such an invitation.

ANY SUPERPOWER PRESENCE IN GULF REGION OPPOSED

LD221512 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1223 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] Kuwait, 22 Mar (KUNA)--Kuwait today reiterated its rejection of all foreign presence by the superpowers in the strategically important Arab Gulf region and warned that such a presence would not be in the interest of either the region or the world.

This rejection, which is the second within a week, was made by Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, who was replying to a question by the press on Kuwait's attitude to the call by Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri for African and Arab countries to offer facilities in their territories to the United States to enable it to counter the Soviet threat to the area.

Husayn said that "Kuwait is opposed to the presence of a superpower in the Gulf because such a presence would act as an invitation for the presence of the other superpower which in turn will lead to clashes and rivalry in the Gulf which is not in the interest of either the region or the world." The Sudanese president had proposed to the United States to carry out a joint development of Sudanese airbases if it wants to enter the region.

SAUDI ARABIA

YAMANI DENIES INTENTION TO CUT OIL PRODUCTION

LD201105 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 18 Mar 81 p 1

[By 'Adnan Sadiq]

[Excerpt] Riyadh--Saudi Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani has denied to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that the Saudi Government intends to reduce its present oil production (10 million barrels per day). The denial came following reports that Saudi Arabia has informed certain petroleum circles that it will reduce its production by 500,000 to 600,000 barrels per day from 1 April.

In another statement Minister Yamani said that the purpose of the meeting held in Riyadh yesderday was to discuss coordination of stands regarding OPEC matters in particular and the oil situation in general. Asked whether discussion dealt with the question of oil production, he said that this question was not discussed at all. He also denied that the oil ministers discussed the question of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

BANGLADESH PRESIDENT ARRIVES IN JIDDA 22 MAR

LD220714 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0709 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] Jidda, 22 Mar--Bangladesh president and member of the Islamic good offices committee dealing with the Iraqi-Iranian war, Ziaur Rahman, arrived in Jidda this morning. He was welcomed at the airport by the committee chairman, Guinea President Ahmed Sekou Toure. Also at hand were secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization Habib Chatti, Commander of the Western Region Gen Mansur ash-Shu'aybi, Chief of Protocol at the Saudi Foreign Ministry Salim Sunbul, the Bangladesh ambassador and a number of officials.

VISIT BY SECRETARY HAIG SCHEDULED FOR 7 APR

LD210752 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0637 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Text] Riyadh, 21 Mar (SPA)--Alexander Haig, U.S. secretary of state, is due in Riyadh on 7 April for a 1-day visit to Saudi Arabia. During the visit Alexander Haig will hold talks with Saudi officials on bilateral relations between the two countries and issues of joint interest.

UAE

GULF DECLARATION ON FOREIGN PRESENCE URGED

GF221735 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 21 Mar 81 p 1

[Editorial: "Gulf Declaration to Reject Bases"]

[Excerpt] No doubt the idea that Gulf security must be in the hands of its people is a reasonable conception for overall Gulf security.

But achieving Gulf security does not require--as some people imagine--the unity of armies, for this is not required by the current particular or general situation. It is neither achieved through the unification of arms nor with joint exercises and unified military systems.

In fact it is not a military issue--despite the importance of this side--but a political issue, which has no difficult dimensions that our current situation could not withstand. Neither does it concern the sovereignty of every Gulf state in administering its military forces. In short, it is a joint rejection of foreign military presence or any form of presence that allows for military intervention in the future. Under this principle all military facilities, advisers and consultants of the coveting countries fall. These advisers and consultants are planning through arming and training--while in the military forces of the Gulf countries--in a way that falls in line with the thinking of the leaders of the superpowers.

Perhaps we need now more than ever a joint Gulf declaration that takes the force of a "charter." There is no harm in keeping it at the United Nations as an international document. This declaration will reject all bases whether they are established on Gulf or neighboring lands. It will reject facilities, alliances and blocs. This should be coupled with an open and decisive stand on those who accept bases and ease their "Arab conscience" by calling them facilities.

The declaration of a Gulf security charter, consisting of regulations that may differ in view from or partially or wholly agree with the current issues and even Gulf issues, will undoubtedly be a repulsive declaration, because it will close the holes that might allow for stealthy or open penetration against us.

YAR

OFFICIAL REPORTEDLY ARRESTED FOR TREASON

NC211207 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1115 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Text] San'a', 21 Mar (MENA)--'Abdallah al-Asnaj, member of the YAR Consultative Council and of the Constituent People's Assembly, has been arrested on the charge of national treason. The MENA correspondent in San'a' has learned that the YAR vice president and chairman of the Constituent People's Assembly has authorized the security authorities to arrest Al-Asnaj after the security organs managed to lay hands on important documents proving that Al-Asnaj had played a serious role in an attempt to undermine YAR relations with other Arab states and, as has been understood from a source in the security apparatus, that Al-Asnaj was involved in this action to serve foreign quarters. A reliable source in the security organs emphasized to the MENA correspondent that Al-Asnaj had strong relations with some intelligence organs and that the object was to deepen the differences in the Arab area.

An official source in San'a' said that no disclosures were made about others who participated with Al-Asnaj in this treason, except for Ibrahim al-Kabsi, who is said to be the stooge of Al-Asnaj and who occupied the post of under secretary from the time that Al-Asnaj was a foreign minister until the middle of 1977.

MENA has learned that the Constituent People's Assembly is expected to consider this case on Monday with a view to adopting a decision lifting 'Abdallah al-Asnaj's parliamentary immunity in preparation for his trial before a supreme constitutional court, together with his accomplices on the charge of national treason. It is being reiterated in the al-qat sessions [local drug smoking sessions], which are a daily social phenomenon, that the leaders in this subversive ring are Al-Asnaj and some members of the Al-Wazir family, headed by Ibrahim al-Wazir.

AS-SADAT ADDRESSES MESSAGE TO PEOPLE OF AFRICA

NC211056 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0930 GMT 21 Mar 81

["Text" of President Anwar as-Sadat's 21 March message, read by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, at the celebration held in Cairo at the Central Committee Hall on the occasion of the world day for combatting racial discrimination]

[Text] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat has stressed that peace and stability will not be established in the Middle East if the occupied Arab territories, including Arab Jerusalem, are not liberated and if the Palestinian people do not regain their legitimate rights.

In a message he addressed to Africa today on the occasion of the world day for combatting racial discrimination, President as-Sadat also stressed that Egypt will keep its promise to work toward ending injustice, discrimination and coercion in all parts of the world. He further emphasized that stability will not be realized in the southern part of Africa if the hated racist regime there is not destroyed and if Namibia is not liberated.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali read the message on behalf of President as-Sadat at the celebration which the Arab Republic of Egypt held at the Central Committee Hall on the occasion of the world day for combatting racial discrimination. The celebration was attended by senior state officials, the ambassadors of Africa to Cairo, representatives of the African liberation movements and members of the African society in Cairo.

The following is the text of As-Sadat's message to Africa:

The world society celebrates the 21st anniversary of the world day for combatting racial discrimination. This is the day which the United Nations considered as a symbol of solidarity with the peoples of the African Continent struggling against the hated racist regimes.

Once again we are participating in this celebration to confirm the solidarity of the people and government of the Arab Republic of Egypt with the peoples of the southern part of Africa who are fighting the most honorable battles for the sake of man's dignity and for saving man from racial injustice and persecution.

This celebration reminds us of the Sharpville massacre which took place on such a day 21 years ago. Its victims were many innocent Africans who were killed, wounded or detained when the terrorist racist regime opened fire on groups of Africans who had staged a peaceful demonstration against the racist traffic law. This massacre has become a symbol which represents this tragedy, recalls the tyranny of injustice and attracts the anger of human society in all parts of the world that support man's freedom and dignity.

This is not all. Today's celebration is considered, at the same time, a serious call for awakening the world conscience toward the peoples of the southern part of Africa who are suffering from displacement, injustice, massacres and bloodshed. It is also a strong incentive for all of us to bear the responsibility and commit ourselves to continue the impetus to do away with the racist regime and remove its traces.

The terrorist racist regime will not benefit long from its intransigence despite its defiance of world society, world public opinion and UN principles and resolutions. Colonialism showed intransigence in Africa in the past, but it has disappeared forever due to the struggle of the African peoples and the solidarity of the world society with its strugglers. The will of the people of Zimbabwe trumphed and they attained their freedom in lands which also witnessed a bloody struggle against a racist regime which tried to impose the white minority's domination over the overwhelming black majority.

The fact is that bearing the responsibility and the commitment must never slow us down. We must continue along the path of the struggle despite the difficulties. Some time ago the Geneva conference on Namibia failed because of the obstacles which the terrorist racist regime laid to undermine the conference. However, there are precedents which indicate that the occupier or the colonizer does not give up after one round, but that there must be many rounds. The occupier and the colonizer retreats after each round. All this must be coupled with the continuation of the impetus and with Africa's insistence on intensifying the armed struggle and acting on all diplomatic and political levels, in order that we may perfect the links of the siege around the racist regime from all directions. The will of the people of Zimbabwe has triumphed and so will the will of the people of Namibia triumph, thanks to the holy struggle of the sons of its struggling people who are led by SWAPO, which is a giant in the struggle. The will of the people of the southern part of Africa to attain freedom, dignity and equality will also triumph. At today's celebration it is our right to praise the mature and heroic revolutionary struggle of the peoples of the southern part of Africa and to greet their two leading parties--the African National Congress and the Pan-Africanist Congress.

Ladies and genetlemen: Today, we take the opportunity to affirm the adherance of the Arab Republic of Egypt to all the resolutions issued by the United Nations, as well as those taken by the Nonaligned Conference and the OAU, with regard to South Africa and Namibia. The latest of these resolutions was issued by the OAU's Foreign Minister's Council on South Africa--held last month in Addis Ababa--in which we participated and highlighted the need to support the armed struggle waged by the national liberation movements. We also declared our intention to spare no efforts to mobilize international public opinion in order to uproot racial discrimination and [establish] a democratic government and society in Southern Africa by applying economic and diplomatic pressures and boycotting in various spheres.

At the same time, we denounced the severity of the rasicst regime because of the terrorism and blatant aggression committed by this regime as well as the destruction and the attempts to upset the stability and commit deliberate aggression against the confrontation and neighboring countries. This refers particularly to the raids, which claimed tens of thousands of victims, that were made recently by the racist regime against the republics of Angola and Mozambique as well as the deliberate aggression which the regime is committing against the refugees from South Africa. This aggression violates the 1949 Geneva agreements relating to protection for war victims as well as the 1968 UN agreement on the refugees.

Let the terrorist racist regime know that the international community is well aware of the recurring massacres committed against civilians in South Africa itself and of the raids against civilians in Angola and, recently, Mozambique. To face this terrorism we have all declared, in the OAU's foreign ministers' meeting, that the racist regime is fully responsible for any war that breaks out in South Africa and Namibia.

The Arab Republic of Egypt, which is hereby revealing its backing and political, material and moral support of the liberation movements, believes that the struggle of the people of southern Africa and the support and backing by our contemporary international community are the means that will expedite the realization of the rule of the rightful majority. By achieving this goal the stability that is sought in this dear area of the African Continent will be realized.

Egypt will not rest until injustice, discrimination, suppression and aggression have been abolished everywhere. When that day comes, peace and stability will prevail and our people will be disposed to deal with the economic challenges in an atmosphere of security and justice which will ensure man's dignity everywhere. If peace and stability in South Africa can only be achieved by the abolition of the hateful racist regime and by liberating Namibia, then peace and stability in the Middle East--which is linked to the African Continent itself--can only be realized by liberating the occupied Arab territories--including Arab Jerusalem and the attainment by the Palestinian people of their legal rights.

AS-SADAT MESSAGE TO ISLAMIC, ARAB PEOPLES LEAGUE

NC212044 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1705 GMT 21 Mar 81

["Text" of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat's 21 March message to the Islamic and Arab peoples, read by the secretary general of the League of Islamic and Arab Peoples, Dr Sayyid Nawfal, at a celebration, held at the league's headquarters, marking the hegira centenary of the publication of AL-'URWAH AL-WUTHQA magazine]

[Excerpts] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA)--In the name of God, Islamic and Arab brothers and sisters: On this day of the first year of the last hegira century, Jamal ad-Din al-Huwayni al-Afghani and Imam Muhammad 'Abduh al-Masri issued the first edition of the AL-'URWAH AL-WUTHQA magazine from a room on the roof of a Paris house that looked poor in appearance but was rich in knowledge and faith. They did this with the aim of expressing the principles of the Al-'Urwah al-Wuthqa Association, which was founded in Egypt and which had a center in India and branches in the Near and Far East; to unite the voice of the Muslim and Arab peoples and other Asian and African peoples; to confront foreign colonialism which divided our peoples and made them fall in the abyss of backwardness, ignorance and fragmentation; and to restore the Islamic and Arab glory, achieve the people's freedom and man's dignity and look forward to free and equal cooperation throughout the world.

On this anniversary, we should ask how AL-'URWAH AL-WUTHQA was issued at the beginning of the last hegira century and why we are calling today for the republication of this magazine at the beginning of the current hegira century.

After we failed in establishing Islamic cooperation, we then turned to the joint Arab action, but this stumbled throughout 36 years due to increasing differences and conflicts. No political, defense, economic or social goals were achieved. We tried again for Islamic cooperation, but our attempts also failed and the successive Islamic summit conferences have failed since the burning of the Al-Aqsa Mosque in 1969 and for the past 12 years. So far no progress has been made in confronting the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan or the Gulf war, or in settling any of the disputes, conflicts and wars among the muslims.

Now that the dangers have exacerbated among the Muslim and Arab peoples, it was inevitable that a League of Islamic and Arab Peoples should be established and that we return to the call of AL-'URWAH AL-WUTHQA.

Today, the Arabs and Muslims are in need of accord with Egypt on all matters, for then they would raise the flags of peace, justice and freedom over their homes and be free of wars, persecution and opperession, and secure for their homelands and peoples a better and happier future and a glorious, more dignified tomorrow.

In this connection, I would like to affirm that our own initiative is the basis for resolving our questions and attaining our goals. The European initiative helps us concerning the question of a comprehensive peace for the Middle East. We welcome it. The American participation in the peace process is fundamental. Before we called for Soviet participation. However, the Arab initiatives, particularly by the parties directly concerned in the conflict, are the main factors needed for settling the Arab-Israeli conflict and for restoring the national rights of the Palestinian people.

We have tried the British, the Anglo-American and the joint Western initiatives. We have also tried the UN initiatives, the envoys of the permanent member states of the Security Council and the two superpowers. Our losses have been high. We began our successful steps only through our initiatives in war and peace over the last 7 years.

On this premise a sincere and enlightened Arab solidarity has been the basic foundation which I have been seeking to lay down ever since the Egyptian people honored my by electing me their president. I have been seeking to lay down this foundation for the past decade.

I still take pride in the achievements I scored in this domain prior to, and in the wake of, the glorious Ramadan war. These achievements have induced the Arab masses to contemplate the emergence of a new joint Arab action on a binding and unitary basis, in lieu of being established on an optional and contractual basis.

However, foreign ambitions and domestic agentry have dissipated our joint action, have proliferated our ill-practices throughout the world and have returned us to the painful state of affairs that prevailed prior to our great victory.

It has been for the sake of Arabism and Islam that Egypt has triumphed in the two battles of war and peace. Furthermore, Egypt has rightly become the bastion of security, freedom and reconstruction. Arab integration in the various domains is a national, pan-Arab, historic and fateful reality. Therefore, on behalf of Egypt, I reaffirm Egypt's full appreciation of the ties of pan-Arabism and of its common principles, objectives and interests. I also reaffirm our resolute commitment to discharging our Arab duty and to assuming our Islamic responsibility.

Egypt and its people, and its president and government, have performed their duty. Therefore, it is imperative for all the Muslim and Arab leaders to discharge their duty. It is also incumbent on these leaders to strive to find their way out of the present vicious circle, in order to achieve the hopes and aspirations of their peoples for the building of peace and the achievement of freedom and development.

Brother and sister members of the Constituent Assembly of the League of Islamic and Arab Peoples, you indeed deserve to be congratulated on the strides that have been made in the domain of founding your league in only 4 months; that is, since the beginning of this glorious hegira century.

The Arab and Islamic peoples have echoed your call--a call for righteousness, strength, good and happiness for all Muslims and Arabs. Membership in your league has grown. This growth has delighted the sincere and faithful. However, it has endangered the ambitions harbored by the covetous aggressors abroad. The growth of your league has also sorrowed their defeated agents at home. Furthermore, you have upheld religion and patriotism in Islamic and Arab events, developments and issues. Moreover, you have removed the rubble by which the forces of aggression and their lackeys have tried to obliterate the heroic Afghan struggle for the sake of God and freedom.

You have loudly voiced the call of Islam, Arabism and sublime interests in the Gulf war, the Lebanese tragedy, the Maghreb conflict and in all the other current Arab and Islamic instances of disarray.

You are about to begin a new session. We hope that through this session an edifice will be set up on the foundations that you have laid down. We also hope that the pace of the work on which you have embarked to build common security, to bring about political, economic and social cooperation, and to set up the Islamic-Arab parliament and the Islamic-Arab common market will increase.

The cause of Arab Jerusalem stands in the vanguard of the Islamic, Arab and national causes. Therefore, I call on you to convene your next session at the end of the coming month of Rajab. I also call on you to make the 27th day of Rajab, that is, the day of the prophet's night journey, a day of Islamic-Arab solidarity for the cause of Jerusalem. I sincerely hope the Arabs and Muslims will respond to your call. When such a response is made, you will have put on record a new Islamic-Arab initiative. You will also have signified the cause for the Palestinians' national rights and for the Islamic and Christian holy places.

You will have responded to the call of God almighty: Glory to God who did take his servant for a journey by night from the sacred mosque to the farthest mosque.

Then the Muslims will indeed cling to the firm and unbreakable tie. "Whoever rejects evil and believes in God hath grasped the most trustworthy handhold. And God heareth and knoweth all things."

"Whoever submits his whole self to God, and is a doer of good, has grasped indeed the most trustworthy handhold. And with God rests the end and decision of (all) affairs." God be with you.

NUCLEAR ENERGY AGREEMENT WITH U.S. INITIALED

NC211614 Cairo MENA in English 1544 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Text] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA)--Minister of Electricity and Energy Mahir Abazah witnessed today the ceremony of initialling an agreement for technical cooperation between Egypt and the U.S. for the use of nuclear energy in peaceful purposes.

After the signature, Abaza said that it stipulates supplying Egypt with two nuclear stations for generating electricity; each is of a one-billion-kilowatt-hour capacity. The U.S. will also participate in extending necessary aid for the setting up and supplying of the two stations with necessary fuel as well as training Egyptian technical cadres in similar American stations.

Final signature of the agreement will take place after referring it to concerned authorities and legislative councils in both countries.

Electricity and Energy Minister Mahir Abazah will leave here tomorrow for Paris leading a delegation of nuclear energy experts on a eight-day visit to France. The delegation will complete the talks that were held here by the French side early this month and will also sign the final agreement for supplying Egypt with two nuclear stations for generating electricity.

AMBASSADORS TO, FROM SUDAN NAMED, ACCEPTED

NC211018 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0955 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Text] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA)--An official source at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry has stated that the Democratic Republic of Sudan has welcomed the nomination of Ambassador Ahmad 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the Democratic Republic of Sudan.

It is recalled that the Arab Republic of Egypt had approved the nomination of 'Abd ar-Rahman Salman Nasr as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Democratic Republic of Sudan to the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Ambassador Ahmad 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif occupied the post of the director of the Palestine Department at the Foreign Ministry. He also served as Egypt's Ambassador to Jordan.

GHALI COMMENTS ON EGYPTIAN-SUDANESE RELATIONS

NC201934 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has said that the exchange of ambassadors between the Arab republic of Egypt and the Sudan comes as an important step in coordinating the two countries' stand, particularly in fateful questions; in strengthening the efforts the two countries are exerting in the African Continent for consolidating the independence of the African states and preserving the principles of the OAU; and in confronting foreign interference in the affairs of the African Continent, which is threatening the continent's security and stability.

He said that Egyptian-Sudanese relations are special relations that cannot be affected as a result of circumstances facing them, because they are relations with a common destiny and goal.

At noon tomorrow the Foreign Ministry will issue a statement on the exchange of ambassadors between the two countries.

'ALI AFFIRMS EGYPT'S SUPPORT OF SUDAN VERSUS LIBYA

NC211740 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1610 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Text] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA)--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has said that should Libya interfere in the Sudan there would inevitably be a confrontation between Libya on the one side and Egypt and Sudan on the other. He said that Egypt and Sudan are linked by a joint defense agreement and that when Sudan calls upon Egypt it cannot but implement the agreement immediately.

In an interview broadcast today over Swiss radio, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that Libyan military activity is a serious threat to Sudan, toward which Egypt absolutely cannot adopt a negative attitude. He said that Libya is now setting up a military base in the Abeche area of Chad, 80 km from the Sudanese border.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali, who is currently touring several West European countries, stated that Libya has failed to comply with the collective desire expressed by the African states at the Lagos and Lome conferences that it withdraw from Chad. He said that Libya has, moreover, persisted in its policy and in strengthening its position of openly threatening the African countries.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that the present tension prevailing in Chad and in the area was a result of foreign interference. He noted that Hissein Habre used to cooperate with Libya until he discovered the expansionist intentions of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's regime. Habre then asked for help from some African countries, including Egypt. 'Ali said that at that stage, Egypt worked with other African states to consolidate national unity in Chad, which Al-Qadhdhafi destroyed by his alliance with Goukouni Oueddei.

AL-QADHDHAFI CALLS FOR SUMMIT OVER EGYPT, SUDAN

NC210829 Cairo MENA in English 0802 GMT 21 Mar 81

[From the "press review"]

[Text] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA)--Libya's Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi called for the convocation of an extraordinary Arab summit conference to consider what he described as the Sudan Government's unilateral decision to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt, reports Ibrahim Sa'dah, editor of AKHBAR AL-YAWM in the paper's leading front-page story. The paper's banner reports "Shock in Libya" caused by Sudan's decision to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt.

The Libyan colonel sent messages to all kings and presidents of the Arab rejection front states urging them to put their differences aside and postpone settling their old scores, in order that the proposed summit might be convened to consider Sudan's position which he described as constituting the biggest challenge to the will of the entire Arab nation.

The messages which went to Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and South Yemen, accused the Sudan Government of departing from the decisions adopted at the Baghdad summit by restoring relations with Egypt without consulting with the other Arab capitals that conformed to the decision of severing diplomatic relations with Cairo in the wake of the signing of the Egypt-Israel peace treaty.

TARIQ 'AZIZ DISCUSSES WAR, OIL, SHATT AL-'ARAB

JN210802 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1940 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Text] London, 20 Mar (INA)--Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister, has affirmed that so far Iraq has not faced any problem since the start of its honorable war against the Iranian enemy. He added that this war, which was imposed on Iraq, has elevated the Iraqi people's morale and deepened their consciousness in their just pan-Arab issues.

In a statement to BBC today, 'Aziz pointed out that the Iraqi people are fighting and building as one man and that Ash-Shu'ubiyah [anti-Arab movement] and sectarianism have no room in our country.

Asked about the war's effect on oil production in Iraq, Tariq 'Aziz said that oil production has no effect whatsoever on the war effort. He recalled President Saddam Husayn's assertion to this end: Iraq is capable of coping with the most difficult times for a long time, even if it does not export one single barrel of oil. His excellency said that the entire world has realized that the Iraqi people are fully convinced that they are waging a just war in defense of their sovereignty and security and for the sake of regaining their historical rights. The Iraqi people are prepared to offer all kinds of sacrifices to this end, he added.

Asked by the BBC about Iraq's rights in Shatt al-'Arab, the deputy prime minister said that Shatt al-'Arab belongs to Iraq historically and geographically. He added that Shatt al-'Arab is the sole waterway linking Iraq with the sea, whereas Iran enjoys thousands of kilometers of coastline on the Arab Gulf and the Indian Ocean. He expressed his suprise over the Iranian rulers' intransigence and refusal to meet Iraq's legitimate demand to restore its national sovereignty over Shatt al-'Arab.

Tariq 'Aziz asserted that ever since it was established, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party has linked the Arab nation's awakening with the Islamic heritage, stressing that the party inspires all its development and social plans with the Islamic mission and that there is no contradiction between the concept of Arabism and that of Islam.

In conclusion Tariq 'Aziz said that Iraq's foreign policy and international relations depend on the principle of equality, mutual respect and nonintervention in domestic affairs.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES 20-22 MAR

JN201719 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Communique No 281 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on March 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With courage and valor, our armed forces continued to strike at the forces of the ignorant racist Persians. The result of their activities last night and today in the operational sectors is as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. A total of 10 were killed in the Iranian region opposite Panjwin.
B. Our units shelled enemy concentrations in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region with artillery and mortars, killing 17 and destroying 4 infantry positions and 1 vehicle.
C. An enemy personnel concentration was sighted in the Gilan-e Gharb region. It was hit by our units and forced to flee, leaving behind 17 dead. Our units destroyed one field gun and one observation post in the same region.

D. Our units hit with various weapons an enemy troop concentration in front of their positions in Sayf Sa'd and forced it to flee after killing 16 and destroying 2 infantry positions and 1 observation post.
E. Eight were killed in the Mehran region.
F. Six were killed and one field gun was destroyed in the Dezful region.
G. Eight were killed and one tank and one armored personnel carrier were destroyed in the Shush region.
H. One of our forward units clashed with an enemy infantry and tank force in the Khafajiyah region. After a fierce battle in which various weapons were used, the enemy was forced to withdraw after sustaining 68 killed and 3 tanks, 2 armored personnel carriers, 3 vehicle and 5 field guns destroyed.
L. One armored personnel carrier, two vehicles loaded with hardware and one observation post were destroyed in the Ahvaz retion.
J. Our units hit enemy personnel and positions with various weapons in the Abadan region, inflicting the following losses: 17 killed and 1 infantry position, 1 vehicle, 1 field gun and 1 observation post destroyed.

Thus, total known enemy losses are: 168 dead and 7 infantry positions, 4 tanks, 4 armored personnel carriers, 8 vehicles, 8 field guns of various calibers, and 4 observation posts destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: Seven martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One vehicle damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 March 1981

Communique No 282

JN211742 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1705 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Communique No 282 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 21 March]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant armed forces continued to pound the ignorant Persian forces. The following are the results of the activities carried out in the operations sectors yesterday evening and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Two were killed and two infantry positions were destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region.
B. Our units pounded enemy concentrations with artillery and mortars in the Gilan-e Gharb region, killing 37 and destroying 1 field gun and 1 rocket launcher.
C. Two were killed in the Sumar region.
D. An enemy troop concentration was sighted opposite our positions in Sayf Sa'd. Our forces opened fire and forced the enemy to retreat, leaving behind 24 dead.
E. One of our forces clashed with an enemy infantry force supported by artillery in the Mehran region. A battle, in which all sorts of weapons were used, took place. The enemy was then forced to retreat after sustaining 56 dead, whose bodies are still lying in the battlefield. In addition a large number of the enemy were wounded and a vehicle carrying troops was destroyed.
F. One armored personnel carrier and two vehicles were destroyed in the Shush region.
G. Four were killed and one field gun, one vehicle and one rocket launcher were destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region.
H. One excavator and one observation post were destroyed in the Ahvaz region.
1. Our units used all sorts of weapons to deal a strong blow to enemy concentrations and positions in the Abadan region, killing 16 and destroying 3 infantry positions; 4 tanks; 2 armored personnel carriers; 11 vehicles, 1 carrying enemy troops; 2 observation posts; and 1 tube launcher.
J. Our forces pounded military targets strongly today in Ahvaz, Ilam and Dezful.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 141 dead and 5 infantry positions, 4 tanks, 3 armored personnel carriers, 15 vehicles, 2 field guns, 2 rocket launchers, 1 excavator, 3 observation posts and 1 tube launcher destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 15 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: two vehicles, one field gun and one mortar were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 March 1981

Communique No 283

JN220659 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1628 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Mar (INA)--In the past 24 hours the Iraqi forces killed 111 of the Iranian enemy and destroyed 4 infantry positions, 1 command post, 2 tanks, 1 armored personnel carrier, 2 vehicles, 3 field guns, 1 rocket launcher, 3 observation posts, and 1 telecommunications station. This came in Communique No 283 issued tonight by the Armed Forces General Command. The text of the communique is as follows:

Communique No 283 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our armed forces continued their activities in the operational sectors last night and today, with the following results:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our units bombarded an enemy personnel concentration with artillery and mortar fire in the Gilan-e Gharb region and forced it to flee, leaving behind 17 killed and 2 observation posts destroyed.
B. One of our forward units clashed with an enemy force in the Mehran region with various weapons and forced it to withdraw, leaving behind 73 dead and a large number of wounded. The bodies of the dead were left on the battlefield.
C. One command post, one vehicle and one observation post were destroyed in the Shush region.
D. Sighting an enemy force in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region, our units hit it with various weapons and forced it to flee after killing 11 and destroying 2 field guns and 1 rocket launcher.
E. A total of 10 were killed and 4 infantry positions, 2 tanks, 1 armored personnel carrier, 1 vehicle, 1 field gun and 1 telecommunications station were destroyed in the Abadan region.

Thus, total known enemy losses are: 111 killed and 4 infantry positions, 1 command post, 2 tanks, 1 armored personnel carrier, 2 vehicles, 3 field guns, 1 rocket launcher, 3 observation posts and 1 telecommunications station destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 24 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One mortar damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 22 March 1981

MATERIAL SUPPORT PLEDGED TO OCCUPIED AREAS

JN221511 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Mar (INA)--Iraq has stressed its determination to give full moral and material support to all peoples under occupation, including the Iranian peoples who are fighting Persian hegemony and domination and aspiring to achieve their national rights and right of self-determination.

In a statement issued today on the occasion of world day for the elimination of racial segregation and discrimination, the Iraqi Foreign Ministry said that the Government of the Republic of Iraq considers colonialism, racial segregation and discrimination to be crimes against humanity and a denial of human rights, and that their elimination from the whole world is a basic condition for the establishment of a balanced international society in which security and peace prevail.

The Foreign Ministry said that 1973-1983, which the United Nations has declared as the decade for combatting racial discrimination in all its forms, is still acquiring importance day after day and that efforts are being consolidated throughout the world to combat racial discrimination.

The Ministry also said that imperialism continued to tighten its control over peoples by cooperating and coordinating its efforts with its natural allies, the racist regimes in South Africa and occupied Palestine. There is also clear evidence that the Persian regime is pursuing a racist policy against the non-Persian nationalities in Iran. These nationalities have been deprived of their liberties and legitimate national aspirations. All these regimes are blatantly flouting the fundamental principles of human rights by practicing the most hideous methods of persecution against the African peoples, the Arab people in Palestine and the non-Persian peoples in Iran, and also by denying them their right to independence and self-determination. The Ministry affirmed that it is natural for the Iraqi Government to support the peoples which are struggling for their independence and right to self-determination, which must be considered as a necessary, essential and basic human right and a basic principle governing international relations. The ministry added that any agreement or international treaty violating that right should be considered inoperative.

The Foreign Ministry referred, in that respect, to the two Camp David accords, which were condemned by the United Nations, the Arab and Islamic summit conferences and the non-aligned countries. The ministry said that the Iraqi Government considers imperialism, apartheid and racial discrimination to be crimes against mankind and a denial of human rights. The ministry said that wiping out these crimes, especially in occupied Palestine and South Africa, is a basic condition for the establishment of a balanced international community governed by security and a just and lasting peace.

The Foreign Ministry affirmed that this is the firm political course of Iraq, which believes in human rights, and that Iraq is seriously continuing the economic, political and cultural boycott against regimes which practice any form of racism or apartheid, demanding that the strictest of measures be taken against countries that cooperate with such regimes.

The Ministry said that Iraq reiterates its determination to struggle against all forms of apartheid, both at the United Nations and outside it, and once more affirms the determination of the Iraqi Government, under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, to offer full material and economic support to peoples under occupation and to the struggling Iranian peoples, which aspire to gain their national self-determination rights, against Persian racist oppression and hegemony.

TRANSPORT MINISTER LEAVES FOR ROMANIA 22 MAR

JN221928 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Sa'dun Ghaydan, Revolution Command Council member and transport and communications minister, left Baghdad for Bucharest today heading a delegation on a visit of several days to Romania. In a statement to INA he said he was carrying an oral message from President Saddam Husayn to Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu dealing with bilateral relations.

KING HUSAYN DELIVERS SPEECH ON AL-KARAMAH DAY

JN211559 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 Mar 81

["Text" of speech delivered by Jordan's King Husayn at a ceremony held in Al-Karamah on 21 March 1981 on the 13th anniversary of the battle of Al-Karamah and the 30th anniversary of the formation of the Al-Hashemi Brigade--recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Brother men of our armed forces, brother citizens: Greetings of Al-Husayn to you all on this immortal day in the life of our Arab army and in the march of its struggle and sacrifice. They are Al-Husayn's greetings on the anniversary of martyrdom, heroism and sacrifice as well as that of the tenacity of men in an epic of dignity, honor and rallying around the Arab banner with its distinguished colors. This flag reflects the story of our nation and contains the symbols of our nation's pride. These symbols keep it high and lofty over holy soil which has been mixed with the pure blood of the great Arab revolution's soldiers and the sons and daughters of the one family, who carried the banner during that immortal day on behalf of the Arabs who responded to the great appeal: Arabs liberate and unify yourselves. They proceeded to move and respond to the appeal for the sake of the one free and great homeland and for the sake of a new renaissance and awakening after a slumber that had lasted several centuries. The revolution succeeded, but the hopes were to some extent dissipated because sincerity, candor and devotion were faced by treachery, mockery and deception.

I would not speak so bluntly today were it not for my sense of responsibility. Likewise, it is not easy for me to confess to you that the black picture which I believe is my duty to submit to you and all our nation became clear to me only a short time ago. I was deeply hurt by it and was shocked by its effects and repercussions because it came from an unexpected source. Yes, brothers, the features of the tragic picture began to form before my eyes when the Iraqi-Iranian war erupted. It is a battle of right and wrong and a battle of destiny. The picture also began to form when I could not find the reason that makes some of our Arab brothers side with falsehood and with those playing with fire, in order to kindle this fire as a sedition among Muslims in the name of religion and turn it into a completely destructive one. Besides, they wanted to humble the dignity of the Arabs, deny them their rights over their lands and waters, threaten to strike at them from behind and make them strike one another at a time when all ambitious forces are surrounding them from every side and when invading Zionism is threatening them in the same way and manner.

Shortly afterward a fraternal Arab army massed on our northern borders and voices accused us of charges of which we are innocent. These tragedies led us to withdraw most of our military formations from this long frontline. This withdrawal was due to a new battle with Zionist forces, which possess the most sophisticated arms and arsenal in the world and which we repulsed from this pure soil with a small group of the faithful in the Al-Karamah battle; it was done as a result of an Arab official's orders and for an Arab leadership which pulled our [Syrian] brothers away from another Arab frontline with the Zionist forces, not toward Iraq in return for a favor and to perform the duty of supporting it, but to threaten the Jordan of the Arabs, this pure homeland, in defense of which the sacrifice of souls and eyes would be a small price.

It was only then, brothers, that I had to thoroughly study and analyze matters in search of a reason and a justification. I came face to face with an ugly fact, which I wished I had fallen, a Hashemite Arab martyr, before I could see it--the same wish I had in the case of more than one pan-Arab and national tragedy. [applause]

In 1966 the present ruling group came to power in Syria, from the practical point of view. As time passed this group kept nothing of the ideological party in Syria--the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party--of the party's founders, ideologies and objectives, except for its name. The minister of defense was the commander of the Syrian Arab Air Force and he is Hafiz al-Asad, now president of the current ruling regime in Syria.

Instead of enhancing joint Arab action, Syria began to move in the direction of Egypt. These moves led to the conclusion of a joint defense agreement. As in our experience of past years, when the Syrian leadership wanted to divert attention in a certain direction, it embarked on information campaigns aimed at creating crises rather than fighting the common enemy. Subsequently--as always happens--Hafiz al-Asad, commander of the Syrian Arab Air Force, at the time commanded his planes and young people, who were lacking experience and preparedness, to engage enemy aircraft in an unequal battle. Several Arab planes went down. The Syrians then stepped up talk about an imminent Israeli attack against Syria. Pressures and embarrassments escalated on Egypt, which believed what it heard. Before it had the chance to call for an Arab summit or refer the matter to the unified Arab command, Egypt moved to the Sinai to fulfill its pledge. The UN emergency forces withdrew. The nation fell for the baited trap and we stood at the gate of an inevitable war. This happened 1 and 1/2 years before the Arabs were supposed to have achieved military equilibrium with the Israeli forces if unified Arab action had kept going with its original impetus. We moved once again from the same motives and convictions and placed the [Jordanian] Arab Army--destiny and land--under the Egyptian Arab leadership. We did so while realizing our real situation and the size of the Arab potential and determining to be faithful to principles regardless of the price.

The days preceding 5 June 1967 were full of continuous work in preparation for the battle with the maximum available potential. From 1 June until Sunday afternoon, 4 June, there were letters warning of an Israeli air strike against the Arab air force. In accordance with this information and my conclusions, I drew attention to the fact that the strike would most likely be launched on the morning of 5 June. That morning we heard of the air strike against Egypt's air force. We promptly moved to carry out a Arab air offensive with Jordanian, Syrian and Iraqi planes. However, our cries and entreaties were made in vain. The Syrian Air Force in threatened Syria, and under President al-Asad's leadership, was not ready for the battle. These planes were not armed and there was need for more time. Time passed. Meanwhile, the Arab army's Egyptian command was implementing its orders to bomb the enemy and commence other military operations against him. Having lost patience and time, Jordanian planes, as well as Iraqi planes based in Iraq, began to raid enemy lands. Soon the enemy threw all its air power against the remaining Arab bases. Thus, the battle ended from the technical military point of view in favor of the enemy, whose planes almost completely controlled the skies thereafter.

History reports that Israel used 98 percent of its air force against Egypt all at once for a few decisive hours, during which it could have lost the battle if the other Arab air forces had moved as dictated by logic in order to strike against Israel's air bases and air force before they were ready to strike against us. Why did this not happen then? Why was it that the Syrian Air Force, which was under the command of Hafiz al-Asad, did not enter the war? After all, it was Syria that cried out for help when it claimed it was facing impending danger from Israel.

Did Israel actually take a chance when it embarked on an operation that could have resulted in the final and catastrophic destruction of 98 percent of its air force, or was it assured that the size of the risk was acceptable?

Jordan fought without air cover. The Egyptian commander of the joint Arab forces pulled out all armored forces from the northern sector of Jordan, believing that the Syrian Army would protect it. Suddenly, Israel moved into the northern sector of the Jordanian theater of operations. It launched a three-prong attack north and south of the Jordan Valley and on the West Bank in the center. Our men fought bravely. In the meantime, Egypt remained incommunicado until the end of the war.

One night a Syrian officer came to general headquarters. He asked: Do you mean to say that Jerusalem fell? I almost lost my temper when I heard him say this. It was martyr Egyptian Commander 'Abd al-Mun'im Riyad who intervened. I demanded that Syrian forces enter Jordan to help it salvage what it could and to stop the enemy advance.

After long delay and hesitation, a Syrian brigade moved to the approaches of Al-Ba'ah near Suwaylah. However, the commander and units of this brigade disobeyed orders to move to the Jordan Valley to cover a weak front that exposed Amman to danger. The commander of the Syrian brigade claimed that he needed a few days to study the nature of the terrain. This brigade remained where it was until the war was over.

Israel stopped at the river. The enemy forces then easily swept the well-fortified Golan Heights and seized Al-Qunaytirah without much resistance. The Israeli forces stopped at the points they set for themselves. They thus took up positions on the opposite side of the Khalid Dam site on the Yarmuk River.

How did that happen? How could the Israeli forces sweep the Golan and seize its impregnable fortifications when Syria had its forces on that 76-kilometer line, which was the most important frontline with the enemy? Yet, Jordan with its small army and two armored brigades stood on the longest frontline, 560 kilometers. Was it Israel's extraordinary power? God knows.

The war was barely over when the Syrians set up the first organization, As-Sa'iqah, and imposed it on the Palestinian arena. Soon afterward other organizations proliferated in the Palestinian arena, reflecting all the contradictions in the Arab world and the world at large. They all aimed at undermining the unity and position of Palestinian action. The situation became explosive in Jordan, the remaining Arab shield against the Israeli danger and the remaining Arab hope to hold the enemy at bay until the Arab world could rebuild its power, tackle its evil enemy and regain its rights.

I went to Egypt to meet with my great brother, the late president, Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir. He was most distressed but brave in the face of the catastrophe. He told me: Take action. Do anything for the sake of saving Jerusalem and the West Bank short of signing a separate peace with Israel. Go to the United States and I will support you in anything you deem fit, and in any stand you take, even if you stand against us. I promise you also that I will never forget the stand which you and your army and people have adopted. I shall not reopen the Suez Canal to navigation and I shall not accept the return of a single inch of Sinai territory to Egypt before the deliverance of Jerusalem and the West Bank.

I promised him that I would do all I could. But I also said that I would not accept anything short of a comprehensive solution which returns all the Arab territory, including its gem, Jerusalem, to its people and owners. I said that it was our destiny to cope with the situation, that Jordanians and Palestinians were determined and that they had pinned their hopes on our Arab nation. Thus, I embarked on my activities throughout the world. All this was out of a sense of duty, not because someone told me to do so. It was my destiny to continue to live rather than acquire the honor of a fallen martyr on the battlefield like many of my friends. Thus, I had to continue to work for the cause.

I have knocked on every door for the sake of saving Jerusalem and the occupied territory, liberating its people and establishing the Palestinian people's sovereignty over their land without compromising over a single inch of the land or any Palestinian Arab right to Palestinian soil. Arab Jerusalem must return to Arab sovereignty. There can be no peace without all of this and without the Palestinian people achieving their full rights to their national soil. No one on this earth can disprove my words. This will continue to be my position.

And when God wills and I die, I will go with the free conscience that I have done all I can in the service of Palestine, its beloved people and my nation, to which I am proud to belong.

The West Bank and Jerusalem were my responsibility as the highest authority in Jordan. but since the Rabat summit, they have become the responsibility of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. I will never abandon this position or any of my duties toward the PLO, Palestine and Jerusalem--people, land, and right.

The 1973 war took place after my meeting with Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat and his comrade in the war, President Hafiz al-Asad. Our relations were severed with them. During that meeting I told them that I and Jordan were completely ready to die in defense of the territory on which we were standing in the face of any Israeli aggression. They said they expected such an aggression. I said that there would be no Israeli military danger to Syria from northern Jordan as long as we were alive. We made this commitment despite our limited resources due to our isolation by our Arab brothers, thus depriving us of the means to rebuild our might and military power. As a result of this meeting, Egypt decided to immediately restore relations with Jordan.

I returned to Jordan without any knowledge of the war which would take place in October 1973. I was surprised by everything; the timing and the preparations. I was sorry, because we were not given time to prepare ourselves for it. It was the first and last surprise attack on Israel, which was conceited by its 1967 achievements.

Still, we acted quickly to alert and prepare the army for war. We decided on the basis of the situation that our time to cross, even without air cover, would be when the Syrian forces regained the Golan Heights. We made this decision despite Egypt's insistance that we should stick to our positions and refrain from exposing them to danger, as this would diminish the impact of the successes expected on the two other fronts.

We waited and waited. Suddenly, Israel was making headway and a dangerous enclave was building up on Syrian territory. The whole Jordanian flank was threatened by Israeli movement in the direction of Ar-Ramtha and Al-Mafraq. At that time we took action and sent our forces to Syria. Our vanguard was the 40th armored brigade, Prince 'Ali Brigade, which was let down in 1967 when its back was exposed to Israel because President al-Asad ordered the Syrian forces not to provide protection. Recently, President al-Asad admitted that he himself ordered Syrian forces to occupy northern Jordan in 1970.

We sent the 40th brigade and other reserve forces to Syria. But we refused to remove other forces from their bases and supply lines as the Syrian command insisted because they wanted these forces to fight the Israeli enclave.

Our Jordanian units fought courageously on the Golan. I had the honor of inspecting these units on Syrian territory as an Arab soldier. I addressed a greetings message from the battlefield to President al-Asad in his command headquarters in Damascus.

After the war the Jordanian forces returned home. But the new Israeli enclave remained until the Egyptian-Syrian-U.S. political efforts returned it and occupied Al-Qunaytirah to Syria without fighting.

As for Lebanon, it exploded into a painful tragedy. We supported the entrance of the Syrian forces into Lebanon to stop the bloodshed, to prepare for a Lebanese-Lebanese and Lebanese-Palestinian dialogue in order to put an end to the causes of the tragedy and to reach an effective formula which would secure Lebanon's stability, independence, policy and fraternity with the sons of Palestine in Lebanon until they regained their homes and rights. We defended the Syrian intervention in Lebanon everywhere in view of what we believed its aims, aspects and goals to be. But nothing of what we hoped for was achieved. Not even one part of it, at a time when Israel is in southern Lebanon with a red and a green line separating it and the Syrian forces.

The Palestinian and Lebanese people were hostages to the whims of the Syrian command. Measures were taken against anyone who raised his voice, wrote or spoke out of conscience anything which dissatisified Al-Asad's group about the Syrian regime's practices against the whole of Lebanon. These practices are unacceptable, as they are impairing Syria's destinies. the unity of its people and their dignity and putting thousands of its soldiers, known for their pride and bravery and deprived from training and the necessary polishing, in places other than their correct military positions, where they would be the nation's pride and its weapons against its enemies.

As for the Yarmuk waters, we could not even take advantage of surplus rainwater in the river, to which we have a firm and established right. These waters are wasted. Only the enemy benefits from them. The enemy has taken a large quantity of the River Jordan's water and is now squatting at the source of the river in southern Lebanon.

The Syrian leadership wants to have the same people fight each other. The Syrian leadership wants to hurl some of the proud Syrian people into a battle of survival against the majority of the Syrian people. The leadership is harming the Syrian people. It is gradually obliterating their national and pan-Arab positions and the struggle of their honest men along the long march. In order to cover its failure in destroying Syria's spirit, the Syrian leadership is finding cause for battles with us and others in the Arab world. Syria wants to kill the Arab human being and Arab free opinion. With the excuse of establishing a strategic balance between the Arabs and Israel and in order to secure its survival, Syria wants to divide the whole region so that some of it is subservient to the West and some of it to the East. Syria wants to internationalize the Arab-Zionist conflict. With this goal it agrees with Zionism. If this goal is achieved, the region will explode and become exposed to dangers. It will be a whirlpool of international conflict which could hinder the Arab nation's march, make it lose its character, plunder its resources and lay waste to all of its history and the blood of its true men and martyrs.

Brethren, Arabistan, which has always, until the beginning of this century, been Arab, has become Iranian in the logic of the Syrian leadership. The Syrian leadership even wants Iran to have sovereignty over the Shatt al-Arab jointly with Iraq. Syria wants Iraq, our support, to be defeated so that the Gulf will be undefended and the Arab holy land exposed to danger. We do not really know where Syria is heading.

Official Syria, with its information media and leadership, is the sound of castanets echoing the enemy's voice and repeating all his words and ideas. This is an ugly and tragic picture of a regime with which we dealt very sincerely out of our faith in Arab Syria. Even though this regime's tragic true nature has been revealed, our faith in Syria and in all the Arab sons and grandsons of its heroes will not be shaken. We will always consecrate all our efforts to the Arab human being and his future here and there and in the entire Arab homeland. Our heads are held high and our resolution is a huge potential that is made firmer by challenges and sharper by the danger looking down upon the coming generations.

Brethren, while remembering our innocent martyrs on Al-Karamah and Al-Hashemi Brigade day, we renew the pledge we made with our Arab brothers at the Amman summit, as well as the pledge we made with our brothers the leaders of the Muslims in Mecca and At-Ta'if summit, that we will continue our sincere and persevering work in the Arab and Islamic fields, as well as in the spacious international arena, for the sake of serving the mission and aims of the nation, particularly the cause of Palestine.

We stress with full commitment, clarity and frankness that the restoration of the Palestinian Arab people's rights, headed by the return of our Arab Jerusalem, and the determination of their destiny and the establishment of their national soil under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, do not admit any bargaining, compromise or relinquish ment. We also stress that the key to peace, security and stability in our region depends on solving the issue of Palestine, which is the issue of the Arabs, Muslims and all mankind, in a just, comprehensive and honorable manner.

In conclusion, and in fulfillment of the martyrs' blood in Mu'tah, Al-Yarmuk, Al-Qadisiyah, Hittin, Al-Quds, Bab al-Wad, Al-Karamah and all the pure Arab territory, we will forever move ahead, so that Almighty God's will will be achieved. We will together carry and defend the Arab banner. We will preserve the mission and perform the trust regardless of the price and sacrifices. We prefer death to humiliation.

There is no help except from God. For the scum disappears like froth cast out; while that which is for the good of mankind remains on the earth. [Koranic verse]

May God's peace and blessings be upon you.

CROWN PRINCE MEETS WITH UK'S CARRINGTON 20 MAR

JN210714 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Text] Crown Prince Hasan received in his place of residence in London yesterday British Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Lord Carrington. The talks during the meeting revolved around the relations between the two countries and the Middle East issue. His highness asserted the Arab principles for reaching a lasting and just solution of the Middle East cause based on the inalienable and legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, foremost of which is their right to determine their future and set up their independent state led by the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. His highness stressed the need to intensify international efforts to condemn Israel's expansionist policy in the occupied Arab territories and Israel's repeated attacks on southern Lebanon.

His highness also received Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Douglas Hurd and Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Peter Walker. Jordanian-British relations were discussed during these two meetings.

AL-WAZZAN DISCUSSES RECONCILIATION, SECURITY

NC221846 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has emphasized that it is inadmissible for Lebanon alone to continue to pay the price for the acts of aggression perpetrated by Israel in the south while others merely remain as onlookers or pay their share of funds--which they have not worked hard to earn--while we pay the price in the form of sweat and blood and of a civilization built by our fathers and ancestors.

The prime minister said: The day will come when Lebanon will be in a position to exempt its brothers from discharging their duty toward Lebanon. The prime minister pointed out that some principles laid down for reconcilation do not require implementation. However, these principles constitute a way of exercising authority, and the exercising of this authority does not require the rallying of various sides around it. However, some other principles will become a reality only when implemented on location--and this is what we are trying to achieve a consensus about. We are also trying to achieve a consensus about the way to implement these principles.

He added: A train runs on two rails. Therefore, it is high time we realize that we are required to achieve security and reconciliation together. The reason is that any step taken toward security fosters reconciliation. Likewise, any step taken toward reconciliation helps [security] on location.

LEBANESE, UN FORCES REDEPLOY IN SOUTH 20 MAR

NC201233 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Text] A Lebanese Army unit operating within the framework of the UN forces, together with Nigerian, Netherlands, and Irish UN units, took up positions at 0400 today in specific points on the hills around Al-Qantarah village, which they had evacuated earlier. The Lebanese Army unit yesterday was deployed in (Wadi al-Hujayr), which leads to Al-Qantarah village.

The UNIFIL command continued to reinforce its forces in Al-Qantarah. Many vehicles belonging to the Netherlands UN contingent, together with a medical unit, were seen taking up positions near a Nigerian UN observation point at the approaches to Al-Qantarah village.

MAJOR HADDAD CHIDES UNIFIL'S GENERAL CALLAGHAN

NC220807 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0645 GMT 22 Mar 81

[21 March statement of Major Haddad to the Voice of Hope in English--read by announcer in Arabic]

[Text] I bear no grudge against the Lebanese Army or the UNIFIL. I and the army of free Lebanon would have wished to see the Lebanese Army come to us after having attained victory over the occupying alien forces in order to extend its sovereignty--which is the sovereignty of all the Lebanese.

As for the UNIFIL, I harbor the same love for them. The first time I met General Callaghan, I sincerely expressed my willingness to cooperate. He promised me that the UNIFIL would cleanse all its areas of terrorist presence, step by step. Callaghan told me: We have cleaned Jwayya entirely; and we are about to do the same in Yatar and other places. However, what has General Callaghan achieved? Nothing! Our information indicates that the terrorists--particularly the Fatah organization--are tightening their grip around Jwayya more than ever before. I have been informed that the terrorists have established a new base on the outskirts of the Ma'rub township--against which the inhabitants of Ma'rub, together with the inhabitants of Barish, had demonstrated. I have received from them a signed document asking to intervene.

Reports also indicate that clashes took place among the terrorists in (Burj Qalawayh)--to say nothing of the area termed by the UNIFIL as 'the iron triangle,' since these forces have no control whatsoever there. Therefore, we do not want the consequences of the UNIFIL's failures to be laid on our own shoulders. We also refuse to concede the security of our free territories to forces which did not succeed in uprooting the roots of terrorism from the areas under their supervision. Our rejection only stems from our desire to maintain our security, country and people. This is our task.

As for General Callaghan, whose friendship we desire, he seems to want to put us in a tight spot for reasons of which we are not aware. I think he wants to implement a certain policy. His country is suffering from the problem of the Irish Liberation Army which is being supported by Al-Qadhdhafi and the terrorist organizations. His country has lately allowed the establishment of a bureau belonging to the so-called Palestine Liberation Organization there in order to cut down the PLO's support for the Irish Liberation Army.

We will not allow anyone to solve his country's problems at Lebanon's expense. We will not spare our blood and our children's blood for this Lebanon. I call on the UNIFIL to understand Lebanon's problems so as not to be led astray by tendencious people. They belong to the civilized nations.

Whoever wants to solve this problem must first of all comprehend it correctly so as to be able to use his conscience and make the judgment.

HADDAD REJECTS UN VOTE; APPEALS TO LEBANESE ARMY

NC210727 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0630 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Undated statement by Maj Sa'd Haddad--read by announcer]

[Text] First, we would like to note that we reject the UN Security Council resolutions related to free Lebanon because no representative from free Lebanon had been asked to participate in these discussions to explain and defend free Lebanon's viewpoints. We were also not officially informed about the resolutions adopted by the aforementioned council.

Second, Hafiz al-Asad did not make do with ordering Sarkis to send his army to the south, but ordered his official newspapers--as seen in an editorial by the official Syrian paper, TISHRIN, on 19 March--to sing praises to the decision to send the army to the south, a decision aimed at liquidating free Lebanon and confronting Israel.

In reply to the aforementioned remarks, we would like to say that what was published in the aforementioned paper makes us more convinced that the Lebanese Army has been sent in order to serve Syrian interests; no more, no less.

We intend to enlighten the soldiers who have been ordered to go to the south with the purpose of coming here. Perhaps their conscience will be awakened and perhaps their latent national feelings will break their bounds and come to the surface. Thus, they would refuse to take part in a Syrian plot that aims to take over all of Lebanon. Therefore, let them join the free Lebanon army so as to foil that plot.

On the other hand, we hereby declare that we will bear no grudge against any soldier from Lebanon's Army--even when we will be forced to fight him--because we are aware that this soldier is powerless and is only working to earn his pay. On this occasion, we would like to note that any soldier who joins our army gets fully paid.

REACTION TO PERES' MEETINGS WITH ARAB LEADERS

Cabinet Discussion

TA221227 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] At the Cabinet meeting this morning Prime Minister Menahem Begin said it was libelous to make his office responsible for leaking information about the meetings between Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres and Arab leaders. Our political correspondent reports that several ministers sharply criticized Knesset member Peres at the Cabinet session.

Labor Party chairman associates said that the security forces subordinate to the prime minister were aware of Peres' talks in London and Morocco. The associates pointed out that a security service agent accompanied Peres on his tour.

The prime minister's associates noted that only Mr Begin and his aide-de-camp, Efrayim Poran, knew in advance about the meeting scheduled to be held in Morocco between Peres and King Hassan. However, they did not know about the meeting between the Labor Party chairman and King Husayn's brother.

The two issues which had reportedly been on the Cabinet's agenda were not discussed today: the teachers' labor crisis and finding a replacement for Minister Sharon as chairman of the committee on compensation for the Sinai settlers.

Peres Interview

TA201357 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Interview of Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres by correspondent Shim'on Ayalon outside Labor Party headquarters in Tel Aviv on 20 March--live or recorded]

[Excerpt] On the basis of the talks that you have had with Arab leaders, has this changed in any way recently your opinion about what has been referred to as the Jordanian option or merely strengthened it?

[Answer] I still believe that the words that we are hearing from Jordan are not the final Jordanian position, and I do not expect any change in the Jordanian position before a situation will be opened for serious negotiations. I am confident that the wise Israeli policy, with the right style, can bring great advantage to the Israeli position and to the posture of Israel in the international community. I believe that the right style may add to our bargaining power and not reduce it. High-pitched speeches ended up with complete concessions, and I prefer to speak with a consideration and negotiate with a thought.

[Question] The television yesterday gave a report which you termed completely fabricated. Yet, somebody somewhere gave this information to the television. The question here is: Was this from inside the Labor Party or from other sources? What is your opinion on this?

[Answer] It is impossible this will come from the Labor sources because the leak was while I was still in there, on my way back home and nobody in the Labor could ever have any sort of report about my talks. So the fabrication comes surely from non-Labor sources.

Other Meetings Expected

TA220923 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 22 Mar 81 pp 1, 2

[By Amnon Barzilay]

[Excerpts] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres intends to continue to meet other Arab leaders abroad even before the elections are held. At the end of the week Mr Peres explained that he had the opportunity to hold further meetings and would not be deterred by any hostile governmental criticism on this issue.

Circles close to Mr Peres said at the end of the week that the meetings the Labor Party chairman was holding with Arab leaders would permit him to formulate, before the elections, a program for a comprehensive, detailed political initiative. Because of this, Mr Peres firmly intends to continue his travels, despite the criticism expected from the Likud and even from the Labor Party.

His critics in the Labor Party are afraid that, by his trips and meetings with Arab leaders, Mr Peres will draw the attention of the Israeli public to the political issues, while the [Labor Party's] goal is to deal with socioeconomic issues in the elections campaign.

In the program Mr Peres is formulating (and which, according to various assessments, was discussed with King Hassan of Morocco and the Jordanian king's brother) the possibility of the establishment of a coalition of Arab countries and the State of Israel was discussed--a coalition which would also establish a political and economic bridge to the United States. This group of countries includes: Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Morocco and perhaps Iraq. This bloc would stand up against the front of countries which are close to the Soviet Union: Syria, Libya, Northern and Southern Yemen. Algeria is divided in its positions.

The establishment of a bloc of Arab countries willing to establish ties with Israel in the future would (according to the program Mr Peres believes can be implemented) make it possible for widescale economic and political aid to be received from the Western countries on the model of the Marshall Plan for the development of economic projects, the condition for this program being that the Arab countries should join in the peace plan.

Rejection of Criticism

TA221440 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres has rejected the Likud's criticism of his meetings with Arab leaders, saying that the future must be established on realistic and Zionist foundations without fear of what the energy or justice ministers might say. Peres added that Cabinet Secretary Arye Na'or has no knowledge of when something is leaked from the Cabinet or what the content of the leak is. That is evident from Na'or's having reported, on behalf of Mr Begin, that the report on Peres' meetings was not leaked from the prime minister's office.

Speaking at Tel Aviv University, Peres declared that, as head of the Alignment--the largest movement in Israel--he must decide what is possible and what is impossible to do, with whom and on what subject one can hold talks with and on what is realistic, what is serious and what is sincere. The Likud, on the other hand, has brought about a dead-end policy.

Further Report

TA221920 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1530 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Tel Aviv, 22 Mar--Israel must take the initiative in the foreign, peace and security policy fields and proceed with a two-track policy--both regional and local. Israel should set up a regional structure that will answer its requirements not because of its weakness but because of its strength. Israel's participation in such a structure in the Middle East can be considered a contribution, not a request for favors.

This was stated by Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres in his appearance before Tel Aviv University students this afternoon.

Peres warned that in the coming 5 to 10 years there will be a few changes in the Middle East. Among other things, he mentioned the danger of the nuclear option in the hands of irresponsible countries such as Iraq and Libya. In Peres' opinion one should prepare the political conditions that will enable us to act against this. According to Peres, one should also deploy against Soviet penetration into the region.

On U.S. interests in the Middle East, he said Israel, Saudi Arabia and Egypt are now counted as friends of the United States. The conclusion is that the decisive consideration for the United States today is the global consideration and not a consideration pertaining to local problems.

Peres added that one should remember we live in a world with dynamic changes. Great importance is attached to the port of Al-'Aqabah, to an airfield near it and to the 'Arava road in Jordan. Israel, too, has its importance. Saudi Arabia understands that oil is important but that the Soviets and terrorists are a cause for fear and concern. "Apprehension prevails in the region about the fate of the kings who still reign," Peres stated. Hence, one should find a way to bring all these countries together, to find a common denominator that will make life easier for all of them, to create hope and to give meaning to questions facing us. "Just as we did not ask to be defended when we were in trouble so we do not ask peoples to make peace for us. This we will be able to do ourselves," Mr Peres concluded.

Peres said that he has never supported the greater Eretz Yisra'el idea because in his opinion it will lead to a binational country to which he is opposed. He added that he is not in favor of removing settlements if they were established legally but he does not commit himself to that rule for the future too. Mr Peres stated that we should strive for the establishment of an economic body, a sort of regional common council, and that we should take the initiative for the promotion of peace not only with Egypt but with other Arab countries as well without harming Israel's security.

Asked about his trip to Europe, he said: "Does a trip of mine to this or that place disrupt any political process? Minister Burg has been unemployed for about a year because there is no political progress. How can my trips interfere with something that does not exist?"

Mr Peres also expressed the opinion that negotiations should be conducted with the inhabitants of the territories with the encouragement of Jordan and perhaps also with its participation. Jerusalem should be unified by the creation of facts and not by damaging declarations.

Finally Mr Peres was asked whether he will transfer his office to east Jerusalem in case he forms the next government. He answered that Jerusalem is a unified city and it makes no difference where the office is located. However, instead of investing 140 million Israeli pounds [as received] in building an office for the prime minister, apartments for young couples could have been built.

Saudi Arabia Issue

TA221628 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres said today that the possibility should be examined of establishing relations with Saudi Arabia, which needs peace even more than Israel and which should now be interested in putting an end to terrorism in the Middle East and rallying all forces to challenge the dangers threatening this region. Mr Peres noted that waging war against terrorism is concern of the present U.S. administration. Mr Peres was interviewed by our correspondent, Amnon Nadav.

According to the reports about Mr Peres' talks with Moroccan King Hassan, a possibility was raised that Saudi Arabia will participate in finding a solution to the Jerusalem problem.

In answer to a question by our correspondent, Mr Peres said the leak made, according to Peres, by the prime minister's office on secret talks with Arab leaders prevents the holding of candid talks that could narrow the gap between the Arab leaders' public statements and their true positions. According to Peres, these positions should be studied but this can be done only on condition they are not publicized at the wrong time. He noted he did not accuse the prime minister himself of leaking the reports on the talks.

U.S. SEEN AS 'SYMPATHETIC' TO AID REQUESTS

TA221453 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] The Treasury and Defense Ministry representatives who held talks in Washington got the impression that the U.S. administration is sympathetic to Israel's problems and its aid requests. This was reported to our correspondent at the end of a series of talks held by the directors general with their counterparts in Washington and particularly with the director of the Office of Management and Budget, David Stockman. The talks, on aid to Israel, were preliminary to political level talks.

The Finance Ministry director general will present to the heads of the defense establishment, the Education Ministry and the Treasury the U.S. reaction to Israel's request to be compensated for the U.S. arms deals with Saudi Arabia and to receive easy terms for U.S. financial aid.

REPORTAGE ON SOUTHERN LEBANON DEVELOPMENTS

Haddad Promise

TA202009 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Excerpt] This afternoon Maj Sa'd Haddad said he was giving careful consideration to his next moves in view of the return of a Lebanese unit to Al-Qantarah. Our military correspondent, 'Amiram Nir, reports that Israeli military sources asked Haddad again today to exercise restraint in his reaction to the return of the Lebanese troops to Al-Qantarah and Haddad promised not to react rashly.

Callaghan Remarks

TA210900 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Text] The UNIFIL commander in southern Lebanon, General William Callaghan, has stated that Israel should reassess its military aid to Haddad's militia and increase its cooperation with the UN forces.

In an interview with our correspondent, Alan Ben-'Ami, the Irish general states that the ties between UNIFIL and Israel could be improved. He denies, however, that he had presented demands in his meeting with thecommander of the northern command, Maj Gen Avigdor Ben-Gal. According to Callaghan, this was a mere courtesy meeting between the two professional soldiers.

Callaghan also expresses his readiness to meet with Haddad to discuss the situation in southern Lebanon and believes that an agreement on cooperation between the militias and UNIFIL can be reached. However, he is unwilling to do anything under threats.

The UNIFIL commander reiterates that his troops are restraining terrorist infiltrations and argues that the Lebanese Army is capable of aiding him and is entitled to deploy in southern Lebanon.

Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori has told our correspondent that the status quo in southern Lebanon must be maintained and that Israel will continue to extend aid to Haddad and to the inhabitants of southern Lebanon. This is advantageous to both sides, he says. Mordekhay Tzipori adds that if UNIFIL wants to help Lebanon it will have to curb the terrorists.

Shelling of Enclave

TA212033 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1935 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Text] Metulla, 21 Mar--This evening the terrorists opened heavy shelling on settlements in the eastern enclave, north of Metulla, apparently with the encouragement of Lebanese Army troops who have positioned themselves in the region. The ITIM Galilee correspondent reports that the shelling began shortly after 2100 and is still going on. The fire is aimed at the Marj 'Uyun region from terrorist bases in the Beaufort fortress and Arnun hill. Militia Commander Major Haddad has so far refrained from returning the fire so as not to increase tension in the area.

Al-Qantarah Situation

TA212052 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1945 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Text] Metulla, 21 Mar--Today a delegation of villagers from Al-Qantarah in southern Lebanon appeared at the headquarters of Militia Commander Maj Sa'd Haddad and demanded that he work to expel the troops of the Lebanese Army and UNIFIL from their village.

In the meantime, reports have reached Haddad's headquarters that the Lebanese Army has returned to Al-Qantarah in greater strength, after having made a ceremonial withdrawal to an open area, exposed to fire, a small distance from the village. There are also reports about additional Lebanese forces having joined the force in Al-Qantarah.

The inhabitants of Al-Qantarah fear that the Lebanese Army's return to the village will force Haddad to resume shelling the Lebanese units. Therefore their delegation demanded that Haddad work to expel the Lebanese unit without using arms. They also announced that they wereacting to remove the Lebanese Army unit from the village and so they asked that, at this stage, Haddad should refrain from shelling the village.

At the end of the week Israeli settlements near the Lebanese border established a special committee to discuss the new situation in southern Lebanon. On Friday representatives of the settlements met and demanded that the government explain its policy toward southern Lebanon. They also demanded that the government continue to aid the militia led by Haddad, because it is only Haddad's control over the area that contributes to the continuation of the calm in the Israeli settlements along the border.

Representatives of the settlements fear that if the Lebanese Army appears in the area under Haddad's control it will also cause the terrorists to arrive there and there will be an actual resumption of the confrontation with Israel on a wide scale.

Eytan Warning

TA221020 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] The chief of staff has warned that if the terrorists expand their influence up to the good fence under UNIFIL's aegis, Israel might return to a war of attrition along this border and the inhabitants of southern Lebanon may become refugees in Israel. Speaking to our military correspondent, Shmu'el Tal, Lieutenant General Eytan said that the most serious implication of the Lebanese Army's entry into the region was that it provided protection to the terrorists near the border. He emphasized that it was yet unclear what would be the fate of the inhabitants of Al-Qantarah who left their village upon the entry of the Lebanese Army. If the inhabitants cannot return to their village, the chief of staff believes that the people will be absorbed by other villages in the area.

Our military correspondent noted that the villages adjacent to Al-Qantarah, Barish and (Ma'aruf), this morning sent envoys to Major Haddad asking him to send their troops to their villages to serve as a guarantee against the arraival of terrorists. A ceremony to mark the fifth anniversary of the good fence was held today. It was attended by the Israeli chief of staff, Major Haddad and personalities from the villages in the Christian enclave.

Metulla Ceremony

TA221717 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Report by correspondent Menahem Horowitz--recorded]

[Excerpt] During a ceremony today in Metulla marking the fifth anniversary of the good fence, Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan discussed relations between the two countries and paid special compliments to the militia commander:

[Eytan] We thank Haddad, the Lebanese patriot who fulfills Lebanon's national aspirations. You have survived and will remain Lebanese. Your leadership should continue until the suffering of both the people and land of Lebanon end. We thank the IDF for its contribution. A strong IDF means security for all. Thank you.

[Horowitz] Three girls from the village of ('Adaysah) near Metulla handed a huge bouquet to the chief of staff and Major Haddad contributed to the fund for Israel's security. In his remarks the commander of free Lebanon emphasized the events in the area since Lebanese soldiers entered the village of Al-Qantarah.

[Haddad--in Arabic followed by Horowitz'translation] Lately the Syrians have increased their pressure on the Lebanese president so that he will hand over Lebanon's sovereign territory to the Syrians.

Release of Soldiers

TA221222 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] It has been reported that a short time ago Major Haddad released the three Lebanese Army soldiers he had taken prisoner: Dr Nabil (Hurani) and two orderlies of the medical team. He also returned the ambulance he had taken in the village of Al-Qantarah a few days ago.

Criticism of Callaghan

TA221901 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Report by Shmu'el Tal--recorded]

[Excerpt] Chief of Staff Eytan said today that Israel has officially declared it has an important interest in the existence of a Christian-Shi'ite southern Lebanon which is not subject to terrorist influence. According to his assessment, southern Lebanon is now organized to handle the problems facing it.

One of the less understandable problems is UNIFIL's new commander. According to Israeli sources who participated in today's ceremony in Metulla marking the fifth anniversary of the good fence, Gen William Callaghan lacks the suitable qualifications necessary to handle a sensitive sector such as southern Lebanon. He ignores Israeli interest in the region, and what is even graver, he has no desire to protect the interests of Major Haddad and his people. General Callaghan exerts pressure on the militia commander, who lacks international status, and General Callaghan serves as a tool for Syria to realize its aspirations in Lebanon. UNIFIL allows the movement southward of the Lebanese Army. The UN soldiers live with the Lebanese Army and they conduct joint patrols together. These jeep patrols consist of one Dutchman, one Irishman and two Lebanese Army soldiers.

Major Haddad's objection to the entry of the Lebanese Army is understandable in light of the fact that these army units are subject to Syrian influence. Haddad identified them with the Syrian Army, stating that with their help the terrorists, followed by Syria, will enter the Christian enclave. Sarkis, Haddad said, has undertaken to hand Lebanon over to Syria before he ends his term.

The sources add that if the Lebanese Army's movement southward continues Israel may lose its influence over Haddad in those fields viewed by the militia commander as critical: the terrorists' movement near the enclave, the entry of the Lebanese Army and the establishment of relations between the Shi'ite majority and the army. These sources say that the UNIFIL commander has introduced a new dimension to the arena and one should consider a demand to have him replaced by a commander who understands the responsibility he shoulders regarding the countries that sent soldiers to his force.

DAYAN DISCUSSES POSSIBLE LIST FOR ELECTIONS

TA191838 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Report by Shim'on Ayalon on former Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan's appearance on 19 March at the Foreign Press Association in Tel Aviv--recorded]

[Text] [Begin recording] [Ayalon] One of the questions the Israeli electorate is now asking is: Will Moshe Dayan run for the Knesset in the next elections, and on what list? And it was to this question that Moshe Dayan today tried to give an answer:

[Dayan] I myself, Moshe Dayan, am through with my considerations whether to go or not and, seeing this list and seeing this platform and believing that the people will not change their minds and believing that we shall find the right persons for the rest of the list, I feel myself that I am going and I am ready to go, but to make the final decision we have to see the entire list and the entire platform and to consult with the whole group and that will be done; I'll come back on the 2d of April, that will be done on the 2d of April, and I suppose that on the 3d of April then we can announce our final decision.

[Ayalon] Although Mr Dayan specifically refrained from giving any names, it is known that Zalman Shoval and Yiga'el Hurvitz most probably will be on Mr Dayan's party list. But doesn't this present some complications, since both of these men are known for their opposition to the Camp David accords, something which Mr Dayan was instrumental in forging?

[Dayan] We put a platform and we said we are not talking about the past but about the future and whoever opposed the Camp David agreement and now is ready to go on behalf of that list and, in accordance with that platform which calls for the autonomy--which is a part of the Camp David agreement--so we will not tell him: Because in the past you objected to that therefore we shall not accept you into the list. If he would say: Look here, I was against it and I am still against it, so then--God bless you and go to some other list; but if he comes and says: It's acceptable with me, so we shall not say: But 6 months ago or 2 years ago or 4 years ago you were against it.

[Ayalon] And what about former Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman? Will he be on Moshe Dayan's political list?

[Dayan] I cannot speak for him but I don't think he will. I am not counting on him and I think that had he wanted--and we are meeting very often--I would have known about it.

[Ayalon] Does Mr Dayan believe he has a chance to be the next prime minister of Israel?

[Dayan] No, I don't think so. I don't think even that I had a chance to be the prime minister of Israel during the last 30 years. I am not looking for a position either for myself or for my list in the government. I want our group to have clear views about the current issues that Israel is facing and to vote and support the right moves taken by any government that would be established at that time from the bench of the opposition, where we would be sitting, and to vote against such measures that we object and that's why we should have a clear platform--so we shall support what we think are positive measures and we shall object to negative measures. [end recording]

WEIZMAN DENIES HE WILL RUN FOR ELECTIONS

TA231000 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 23 Mar 81 p 1

[Text] "In terms of all that has been written about preliminary contacts and the speculation and wishful thinking of some people--nothing has changed. I am not running in these elections under any list, including Dayan's. This is how MK 'Ezer Weizman reacted this morning to reports emanating from the Likud that [businessman] Ya'aqov Meridor's reentry into political life has reawakened initiatives toward returning Weizman to the Herut ranks.

BURG SAYS NRP WILL SEEK EMERGENCY GOVERNMENT

TA192002 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg has declared that the NPR would initiate the establishment of a national emergency government after the Knesset election, whatever its results may be. The reason for this is that in the future there will be pressure on Israel regarding Judaea, Samaria and Jerusalem. Dr Burg was speaking in Cleveland. He is currently touring the United States and Canada, accompanied by his wife, and is also raising funds for the NPR. On the autonomy issue, he said he believes the Egyptians have cheated Israel because negotiations have in fact not been held for nearly a year.

ALGERIA

PLANNING MINISTER MEETS BAYBAKOV IN MOSCOW

LD210434 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2300 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Text] Minister of Planning Brahimi is in Moscow, where today he met the chairman of the State Planning Committee, Mr Baybakov. Their conversation was held in a friendly atmosphere and centered on the development of economic cooperation between the two countries.

SOVIET DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF DEPARTS 21 MAR

LD200038 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Text] The Soviet military delegation led by Marshal Belov, commander in chief of the Signal Troops and Soviet Armed Forces deputy chief of staff, left Algeria this morning. The delegation was seen off at Houari Boumediene International Airport by Capt 'Abd as-Salam Baghdadi, member of the Central Committee of the FLN party and central director of the Defense Ministry, as well as a number of high command officers of the National People's Army.

APS CITES MAURITANIAN STATEMENT ATTACKING MOROCCO

LD221638 Algiers APS in English 1438 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] Nouakchott, 22 Mar (APS)--The Mauritanian press agency addressed a message to world countries and organisations who strive in favour of the just cause and wrote "that in application of its expansionist policy which constitutes a blatant violation of international rights and principles, the Moroccan regime attempted Monday March 16, 1981 to destabilize the Islamic Republic of Mauritania with a commando trained in Moroccan territory and armed and sent on Nouakchott."

This attempt which aborted thanks to our people's vigilance aimed at physical elimination of the main responsibles in the state and the government and establishing instead a power submissive to the diktats and to the Moroccan [word indistinct] expansionist policy" the agency said.

"Facts the Moroccan regime's full responsibility and our people strongly condemn its criminal dealings, and requires an exemplary punishment against the traitors armed and trained by Rabat." [sentence as received]

The agency in consequence, felt compelled to "(?objectively) inform the national and transnational, African Arab and [word indistinct] agency and peoples on the Moroccan regime's serious destabilization [word indistinct] against Mauritania."

The agency added that "punitive expeditions launched by Morocco against Mauritania (?find) their historical explanation in the Moroccan regime's claim over Mauritania as well as (?Mauritania's withdrawal and) strict neutrality in the Western Sahara conflict."

"Mauritania is conscious of its endorsement of the OAU Charter in regard of the intangibility of the borders left by colonization and to UN principles concerning peoples unalienable rights to self determination", the address goes.

It concluded calling upon all national and transnational agencies "to mobilize world public opinion for the defense of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania's independence and territorial integrity."

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI COMMENTS ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS ISSUES

NC221954 Paris AFP in English 1852 22 Mar 81

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Paris, 23 Mar (AFP)--Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi said in an interview to be broadcast here today that "for now" he did not wish to see a change in "the balance of forces between the two super-powers in the Middle East and the Mediterranean."

In his comments to interviewer Christian Malard of Radio-TV Luxembourg (RTP), Colonel al-Qadhdhafi emphasized his country's "neutrality."

"If Libya was allied with the Soviet Union," he said, "this would provoke a major change in the balance of forces" between the USSR and the United States. He added that it was unfortunate that the U.S.-USSR confrontation should have spread to Africa.

"The blind support by the Americans of the Israelis could lead to a confrontation between the super-powers," he said, adding, "I fear that the Jews could lead the world into a third world war, as they led it into the Second World War."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi also stressed the "dangers" that he saw growing out of the "installation of American bases in Somalia, Oman, Egypt and Saudi Arabia." He said, too, that there were similar risks in the "installation of medium range missiles in Europe, the impasse in disarmament talks and French attempts to return to Africa."

In respect to the situation in Chad, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said that he feared that the withdrawal of Libyan troops "would be impeded by the concentration of Egyptian and Sudanese troops at the Chad-Sudan frontier." He also said that the "resurgence of banditry in Chad and the recruitment of mercenaries in the Sudan could undercut Chad's security."

The colonel said that he considered "the making of the atomic bomb a crime against humanity. We do not intend to make this bomb," he said, and supported the "destruction of all nuclear weapons in the world" and the cancellation of all nuclear military programs."

However, he said, "all countries have the right to use nuclear science for peaceful ends."

Noting that relations between France and Libya have recently been strained, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said that he "did not believe that France and Libya were on the verge of a total break "because of the French embargo on the gunboats ordered three years ago." He said that the embargo harmed France's image in the world. But he said that he "always favored a French-Libyan entente and a conference at a high level."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said that, while French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing is a "gentleman, certain interests of the French people had suffered" during his seven years of office. He said that Mr Giscard d'Estaing had committed "several errors in respect to France's interests in Africa and the Arab world."

The Libyan leader mentioned the case of ousted Central African emperor Bokassa and said that he, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, knew some "very dangerous personal secrets of his (the ex-monarch's) relations" with Mr Giscard d'Estaing. However, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said "we do not wish to become involved in this affair. We have no intention of deriving any profit from it."

JANA SCORES REPORTED SUDANESE PROVINCES PLAN

LD220954 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] Tripoli, 22 Mar (JANA)--According to reports received from Khartoum, Sudan is about to witness sharp internal developments and the regime is about to face hard times because of popular wrath.

In mid-April the regime will implement a suspicious plan which aims at dividing northern Sudan into six provinces, with each province having its own nationality and flag and its own independent constitutional status.

With the implementation of this plan, the ruling reactionary regime will complete the preparations for the reorganization of Sudan's internal conditions in a manner which would make it possible to break up the unity of the Sudanese people and destroy their heritage and revolutionary struggle traditions. With the formation of these provinces and the demarcation of their borders, it will become easier for Sudan to accept the establishment of military bases throughout Sudan by the American-Zionist-Egyptian military alliance.

Arab diplomatic sources in Khartoum affirm that the new plan, from a scientific and geopolitical aspect, means the transformation of Sudan from a political entity to a mere geographical term.

JANA ATTACKS EGYPTIAN-SUDANESE NORMALIZATION

LD220920 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] Tripoli, 22 Mar (JANA)--The JANA political editor has commented on yesterday's announcement of the resumption of full diplomatic relations between Sudan and Egypt, affirming that it exposes the Sudanese regime and proves it has fallen in the lap of imperialism and is riding on the bandwagon of the policy of the Egyptian Government, which is in league with imperialism, reaction and Zionism.

The exchange of ambassadors between the two regimes, the political editor added, was an act of clinging together by the frightened, the defeated and those isolated from their peoples. He affirmed that Numayri's attempt to seek the protection of the defeated will not save him from the clutches of the Sudanese people.

This rallying and open falling into the lap of imperialism by reactionary forces places on the shoulders of the living revolutionary forces in the Arab homeland grave tasks and responsibilities, so that they may break the links of the reactionary alliance chain which is supported by the United States and the imperialist and reactionary countries. It also makes it necessary for us to be on the alert and to be able to confront and secure victory for the Palestinian cause.

The political editor pointed out that the resumption of relations between the Egyptian and Sudanese agent regimes proves the soundness of the vision of the Great 1 September Revolution, which has persistently warned against the organic cohesion between these two reactionary regimes and against the threat they pose to the Arab nation and its causes.

The political editor asks: Will the revolutionary forces move now to check this rallying and to seek revenge for the Arab dignity and to achieve victory for Palestine, or will they just sit and watch the imperialist design demolishing the foundation of the Arab edifice brick by brick, roaming through the Arab land and besmirching Arab dignity and keeping the dagger planted in our hearts?

MAURITANIA

MATERIALS ON AFTERMATH OF 16 MAR 'MOROCCAN ATTACK'

Haydala Messages

AB230925 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Text] The head of state and chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation, Lt Col Khouna Ould Haydala, has addressed the following message to His Excellency Mr Stevens, current chairman of the OAU and head of state of Sierra Leone:

I have the honor to inform you that continuing with the escalation [words indistinct] in defiance of the most elementary rules of international law and in deliberate violation of the Charters of the OAU and the Arab League and the spirit of the Nonaligned Movement, Morocco recently launched a terrorist attack against our capital through the use of mercenaries. This attack was to be the prelude to an invasion of our country by the Moroccan Armed Forces [words indistinct].

I particularly wish to draw your attention to the extreme gravity of this precedent as far as peace and good understanding in the subregion are concerned. I wish to reiterate our constant desire that negotiation and dialogue should prevail over escalation and confrontation [words indistinct].

Concerning the future of Western Sahara, our country, which has completely withdrawn from that territory, continues to observe a neutral attitude while working to find a just and lasting solution to this problem in the interest of the subregion and of African unity. [passage indistinct]

Concerning the cowardly aggression of 16 March, the head of state has also sent the following message to the secretaries general of the United Nations, the OAU, the Arab League and the Islamic Conference: Your excellency, we have the honor to inform you that on 16 March our country was the victim of a Moroccan attack whose immediate and painful consequence was the death of innocent persons. [passage indistinct]

Participants' Trial

LD221916 Algiers APS in English 1130 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] Nouakchott, 22 Mar (APS)--"Traitors who carried out the Moroccan inspired coup attempt last Monday were tried publicly yesterday," the Mauritanian news agency "AMP" monitored in Algiers declared.

"AMP" warns progressive forces in the world against Moroccan threats to destabilize Mauritania, and assesses that monarchist aggression against Mauritania results from Rabat's expansionist policy in defiance of the Mauritanian peace accords signed on August 1979. In withdrawing from the conflict, wanted to end with an injust policy which leads to the partition of a territory and a people." [Sentence, closing quotation mark as received]

"AMP" says before concluding "Mauritania fully adheres to O.A.U. and U.N. Charters as for intangibility of borders inherited from colonialism, and the ones relating to inalienable rights of peoples to self-determination."

Commentary on Moroccan Denial

AB201758 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] What a sad task the king of Morocco imposed on his servant, Maati Bouabid; Bouabid who was in fact obliged last Tuesday to resort to ridiculous lies in an attempt to deny, on behalf of his majesty's government, Morocco, full and total responsibility for the attack it engineered against our country.

The unfortunate faithful servant attempted in vain to convince world opinion of the innocence of the Moroccan regime. What a wasted effort, because everyone is aware that Morocco armed and trained mercenaries to kill innocent people and violated the territorial integrity of a sovereign state. The prime minister of the Moroccan monarchic regime did a very poor favor to his master, which fetched a poorer price [words indistinct]. At this price Maati Bouabid decided to be the producer of such a despicable and unseasonable play. The Moroccan regime shed crocodile tears as soon as it was announced that diplomatic relations had been broken between our two countries, a break for which it is solely responsible since it was that regime which dared to commit the odious crime, in defiance of law and conscience last Monday.

President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala's speech was a firm reply to the statement by the government of his majesty, which resorted to lies when it realized that it had been betrayed by its activities and its behavior.

Can Morocco convince us that the (Belligerene) base situated in the suburb of Marrakech is not a Moroccan base? Can it deny that officers Ibn Sulayman, Hammudi and Sharqawi, who trained and led the mercenaries in that same base, are not Moroccan? Can it claim that the passports of the kingdom that the traitors travelled with were Mauritanian passports, or that the arms carried in a Moroccan diplomatic bag in a Royal Air Maroc plane were (?books) or bouquets of flowers? Also, how can Maati Bouabid convince world opinion by claiming that the traitors have never been engaged in any political action against Mauritania on Moroccan soil?

Very well, let us put the uncovered military action aside and let us ask his majesty's faithful servant if he has already forgotten the series of interviews, statements, press conferences and commentaries that the Moroccan newspapers have been intentionally publishing in their columns, of lackeys belonging to fictitious Moroccan organizations such as the "Free Officers" and other imaginary associations, in the framework of a desperate campaign against their people and their fatherland. No, he cannot forget this reality. In any case, it is likely that his memory is short so he must therefore consult the royal archives to recall that those to whom he accorded political exile in Morocco are mostly people who had been prevented from making political statements but who, owing to the kindness of the Moroccan regime, have reached the Moroccan papers, which have become their intermediaries for saying all that pleases the king and shocks the Mauritanian people.

The Moroccan regime must try to understand the Mauritanian people and their regime. It must try in particular to realize that the era of empires is gone forever.

SUDAN

MENA INTERVIEWS MUBARAK ON RELATIONS WITH EGYPT

NC221636 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1524 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] Khartoum, 22 Mar (MENA)--In an exclusive interview with the MENA correspondent in Khartoum, Sudanese Minster of State for Foreign Affairs Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak has depicted Egyptian-Sudanese relations as special and cordial, deeply rooted in history. He added that coherence has existed between the two peoples of both countries since time immemorial.

The Sudanese minister has said that the joint defense agreement between the two countries had existed before it was signed. The reason is that Egypt's security is Sudan's security, and Sudan's security is Egypt's security. He explained that the coherence of the two peoples in both countries is one of cooperation, adding that this coherence is not directed against any quarter. He also said that this coherence will only be directed against aggressors.

Muhammad Mirghani noted that on the premise of the cordial and historic relations existing between Egypt and Sudan, the exchange of ambassadors between the two countries is something which is normal and brings nothing new.

In this interview Muhammad Mirghani elucidated that Sudan formulates its foreign policy in accordance with the popular will of the Sudanese citizens, as illustrated in the decision made by the Central Committee at its recent meeting last February. This decision emphasized the need to consolidate the Egyptian-Sudanese relations and to make headway in the domain of economic coordination and integration between the two countries. The Sudanese minister said: At this very time, it is incumbent on us to bring about further solidarity and coherence between the two peoples of the Valley of the Nile. This is particularly true in view of the fact that we have recently been facing dangers arising from the Libyan intervention in Chad and from Libya's planned actions. The proof lies in the camps that have been set up within Libya; we consider these camps to have been set up for this intervention and for these planned actions.

Concerning Sudan's foreign policy of staying away from international conflicts, Muhammad Mirghani explained that Sudan's stance is clear and frank. Sudan was the first to call for declaring the Red Sea an area of peace and for keeping it free of international conflicts and the big states. Sudan is still calling for keeping Africa outside the scope of the conflicts raging among the big states. The reason is that the presence of any one of the two superpowers inevitably invites the presence of the other. Therefore, it is imperative to stay away from the two superpowers.

He said that in the Islamic, African and Arab spheres, Sudan has stated and will continue to state that our strength lies in our coherence, not in being followers of the big states.

STATEMENT DENOUCES SOUTH AFRICAN 'SEGREGATION'

JN211113 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1035 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Mar (SUNA)--Sudan has stressed the need for all the peoples in the world to exert all kinds of pressures on the South African Government to have it give up its vicious policies.

A statement issued by the Foreign Ministry here today on the occasion of the international day for the elimination of racial segregation [as received] states that the crimes being committed by the facist South African Government to wipe out the African personality of the Azanian people will be checked only through such pressures. The statement adds that Sudan reiterates its stand and its consistent attempts to champion the cause of justice in South Africa and its consistent support for the achknowledged Azanian liberation movements and for the UN Committee on Combatting Racial Segregation until the Azanian people achieve their aspirations.

ETHIOPIA

COMMUNIQUE ON DJIBOUTI PRESIDENT'S VISIT

LD222030 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1710 GMT 21 Mar 81 EA

[Ethiopian-Djibouti communique on visit by Hassan Gouled Aptidon, president of Djibouti, to Ethiopia from 15 to 21 March]

[Text] His Excellency Hassan Gouled Aptidon, president of the Republic of Djibouti, made an official visit to socialist Ethiopia from 15 to 21 March 1980 at the invitation of Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] and of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] and commander in chief of the revolutionary army. Hassan Gouled Aptidon and the high-level delegation of the Republic of Djibouti were accorded a warm and hearty reception during their visit, reflecting the long-standing historical and fraternal relations between the two peoples.

President Hassan Gouled laid a wreath on Victory Monument, which is a standing memory of the struggle waged for centuries by the Ethiopian people to protect its freedom, territorial integrity and historical heritage. During President Hassan Gouled's stay in socialist Ethiopia he visited the municipality of Addis Ababa, Ethiopian Airlines, the Ministry of Education and the Children's Center. During his stay in Diredawa he visited different organizations, in particular the railway headquarters and laid the foundations for the Ethiopian-Djibouti Friendship Club. He also attended and gave a speech at the demonstration of solidarity organized by the people of Diredawa.

President Hassan Gouled Aptidon and Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam held intensive talks on bilateral relations, and on African and international issues. The talks were held in an atmosphere of genuine brotherhood and complete understanding.

Present at the talks on the Djibouti side were: Idriss Farah Abaneh, minister of interior; Aden Robleh Awaleh, minister of commerce, transporation and tourism; Ali Mahamed, minister of industry; Mr (Ismael Umar Gele), an official in the President's Office; Mr (Osman Bokore), secretary general of the Government of the Republic of Djibouti, Mr (Burhan Ali Worke), director of the Prime Minister's Office; Mr (Dayer Jamay), director of foreign affairs; Mr (Mohamed Ali Shakar), chief of protocol; Mr (Umar Farah Elkire), charge d'affaires of the Republic of Djibouti in Addis Ababa; Mr (Salah Umar Haldi), administrator of Ali Sabieh; Mr (Kakro Baragoita), administrator of Obock; Major (Umar Barreh), representative of the chief of staff: Major (Yasin Yabeh), commander of the national security forces: Capt (Yusuf Kayad), ADC; Capt (Mahdi Shakh Musa), assistant to the commander of police.

Present on the socialist Ethiopian side at the talks were: Comrade Fisseha Desta, assistant secretary general of the PMAC, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and Executive Committee member of COPWE; Comrade Berhanu Baye, Standing Committee member of the PMAC, Executive Committee member of COPWE and head of foreign affairs; Comrade Hadis Tedla, Standing Committee member of the PMAC, vice chairman of the National Revolutionary Economic Development Campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council and COPWE Executive Committee member; Comrade Yusuf Ahmad, minister of communications and transport and COPWE Central Committee member; Comrade Dr Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, foreign minister and COPWE Central Committee member; Comrade Taye Tilahun, minister of interior; Comrade Tesfaye Dinka, minister of industry and COPWE Central Committee member; Comrade Kassa Gebre, minister of urban development and housing and COPWE Central Committee member; Comrade Tekeze Shoa-Aytanfesu, minister of mines, energy and water resources. Comrade Wole Chekol, minister of external trade; Comrade Tesfaye Wolde Selassie, minister of public and national security and COPWE Central Committee member; Comrade Getachew Kibret, minister of law and justice; Comrade Mengistu Gemechu, PMAC Standing Committee and COPWE Central Committee member and special adviser to the comrade chairman; Comrade Zeleke Bevene, COPWE Central Committee member and COPWE representative of Hararge region;

Comrade Nadew Zekarias, Central Committee member of COPWE and COPWE representative of Wallo region; Comrade Shimeles Adugna, commissioner of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission and COPWE Central Committee member; Comrade Abebe Worku, commissioner of tourism and hotels; Comrade Tibebeu Bekele, permanent secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Comrade Ambassador Berhanu Dinka, ambassador of socialist Ethiopia to the Republic of Djibouti, and Comrade Hailu Wolde Ammanuel, head of the Department of Africa and Middle East in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

During the talks, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam gave a briefing on the process of development of the Ethiopian people's revolution. On this occasion he explained that the aim of the revoluton is to enable the people of Ethiopia to live in peace, security and equality and justice by creating conditions for the construction of a progressive society, which is free from exploitation and oppression.

Noting that relations between socialist Ethiopia and neighboring countries are satisfactory, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam said that relations with the Republic of Kenya and the Democratic Republic of Sudan are developing very well. In this respect, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam briefed President Gouled on his recent visits to Sudan and Kenya, President Numayri's visit to Ethiopia and the outcome of these visits.

Thanking Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam for the briefing, President Hassan Gouled Aptidon expressed the hope that full cooperation among the peoples of the countries of the region will develop toward the realization of peace and that the efforts of the government and people of socialist Ethiopia to this end will succeed. He added that he is convinced that under the wise and cautious leadership of Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam the Ethiopian people will succeed in achieving the aims they have set for themselvees.

President Hassan Gouled Aptidon went on to give an account of the economic and social tasks fulflled and victories won by the people of the Republic of Djibouti since independence.

Having thanked President Gouled for his briefing, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam praised the president's leadership and assured him of the full support of the government and people of the Republic of Djibouti to accelerate their country's economic and social development. In this respect, the two sides expressed great satisfaction at the growth of economic, political, social and diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The two sides signed various documents and agreements in confirmation of their desire for the further strengthening of these relations to the mutual advantage of the two brotherly peoples. These documents and agreements include:

1) A treaty of friendship and cooperation; 2) a general agreement on transport; 3) An agreement on the Djibouti-Addis Ababa Railway; 4) an agreement on the formation of an economic, scientific and technical cooperation joint commission; 5) a scientific, economic and technical cooperation agreement, and 6) a cultural agreement.

The Republic of Djibouti and socialist Ethiopia believe in coordinating their efforts against forces which obstruct their good-neighbor relations by seeking to bring the two countries close together. In this respect the two sides affirmed their observance and implementation of the principles of the United Nations, OAU and the Nonaligned Movement in respecting independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity. They confirmed observance of these principles constitutes the sole guarantee for peace and security in the region.

Having assessed the critical situation prevailing in the Horn of Africa, the two sides expressed the common wish to see lasting peace in the region and affirmed that they will make the necessary efforts to achieve this goal. They condemned foreign intervention in the Horn of Africa, which is aimed at exacerbating the existing tense situation and making it even more dangerous. They expressed strong opposition to imperialism's attempts to upset the region's peace and security and to safeguard its interests through some of its allies.

On the Red Sea, Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean, the two sides confirmed their support for the UN, OAU and nonaligned resolutions demanding that these areas be zones of peace. They added that strict observance of the resolutions by all would guarantee the stability of the region's countries, the economic prosperity of their peoples and international sea transport and trade.

Referring to the situation in southern Africa, the two leaders affirmed their full support for the legitimate struggles being waged by the peoples of Namibia and South Africa against colonialism and racism. The Republic of Djibouti and socialist Ethiopia also strongly condemned the conspiracies by imperialism and neocolonialism against the independence being sought by the Namibian people under the leadership of SWAPO. In this respect, the two leaders expressed appreciation for the OAU's contributions toward coordinating the efforts of the independent African governments to make the continent totally free from imperialism, colonialism and racism.

The two sides noted the seriousness of the present Middle East situation and reaffirmed their support for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from occupied Arab territories and for the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the establishment of their own independent state. They added that they fully support the efforts of the United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement toward achieving a lasting solution for the problem.

The Republic of Djibouti and socialist Ethiopia expressed deep concern over the war between Iran and Iraq, noting that its continuation, as well as the human and material destruction it would bring the peoples of the two countries, would threaten the peace and security of the region and the whole world in general. The two sides called for a peaceful settlement of the problem and affirmed their support for UN and nonaligned efforts to halt the conflict and reach a peaceful settlement.

The two sides affirmed their satisfaction at President Hassan Gouled Aptidon's official visit to socialist Ethiopia and expressed the strong hope that the discussions held and results achieved during the visit will significantly contribute toward the further development of relations between the two brotherly peoples and the strengthening of their cooperation.

President Hassan Gouled Aptidon expressed hearty and brotherly thanks to Comrade Chairman Mengistu and the people and government of socialist Ethiopia for the friendly welcome and warm and hearty hospitality accorded him and the Djibouti officials accompanying him.

Moreover, His Excellency President Hassan Gouled Aptidon extended a friendly invitation to Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam to visit Djibouti officially. Comrade Chairman Mengistu accepted the invitation with pleasure. The date and duration of the visit will be determined through diplomatic channels.

SOMALIA

PRESIDENT ON GULF COOPERATION, REGIONAL SUMMIT

GF221045 Jidda ARAB NEWS in English 21 Mar 81 pp 1, 8

[By Muhammad Ash-Shaybani]

[Excerpts] Mogadishu, March 20--A Somali request to join the recently formed Gulf Cooperation Council has been turned down, President Mohamed Siad Barre disclosed for the first time.

In an interview at his residence here with ARAB NEWS, the Somali president expressed displeasure and blamed "those states for the negative response." Somalia "must play a role" in the council since "any danger on these states is a danger to Somalia and vice-versa," he added. Somalia, which controls the water passage of Bab al-Mandab into the Red Sea, "represents the backbone of the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf," he said.

However, President Siad Barre lauded the establishment of the Gulf Cooperation Council and expressed the hope "to see a similar cooperation body set up in the Horn of Africa and Aden when existing problems disappear."

A cooperation council can be formed when "some regimes are liberated from foreign domination, or when they become the masters of their destiny," he said.

President Barre said his country "welcomes a summit conference of East African states, including Marxist-ruled Ethiopia, to discuss regional disputes and foreign bases in the area.

Despite sharp differences with Sudanese President Jaf'ar Numayri on the question of foreign bases in the region at the recent third Islamic summit conference in At-Ta'if, the summit expressed understanding of the Somali viewpoint, he added.

"What had taken place between me and President Numayri (at the At-Ta'if summit) was a difference of view on one of the topics. The summit had approved the Somali viewpoint and the matter ended there" without any action, he said.

The president did not disclose the point of difference with Sudan. But Sudan had urged against the establishment of foreign bases in the Horn of Africa. Somalia on the other hand concluded an agreement with the United States to reopen the former Soviet base in Barbera, north of Somalia, in the face of the presence of a superpower (the Soviet Union) in neighboring Ethiopia.

President Barre said his country spared no effort to end the existing conflict and that Ethiopia did not want to give justice based on self-determination to the ethnic Somali population of western Somalia (the Ogaden).

The president, who refers to the Ogaden as western Somalia, vehemently rejected the idea that the solution of the disputed territory lies in the return of the Russians to Somalia. "The Russians will never be returned to Somalia," he said. "The Ethiopian regime cannot deceive the people of the region forever, although it temporarily succeeded in projecting itself as a victim," President Barre said, adding that Addis Ababa is not independent and that the Russians and the Cubans are effectively in control of Ethiopia.

He however said that his government is ready to accept a fresh mediation with Ethiopia provided that its actions are free from foreign domination.

Following is a question and answer of the interview with the Somali president:

Q: Does Somali's economic and military position enable it to engage in a war with Ethiopia, and why does Somalia insist on the restoration of territories from Ethiopia and Kenya?

A: Let me explain to you that our position with Kenya cannot be compared to our position with Ethiopia. Our rift with Kenya is different. It is not responsible for annexing the NFD [North Frontier District] territory; the responsibility lay on the British administration which colonized Kenya at that time and held a popular referendum in the North Frontier District (NFD) in 1963 under the supervision of Canada, Nigeria and itself. When the referendum result showed that 87 percent of the territory's residents want separation from colonized Kenya at that time and merger with the Republic of Somalia, Britain set upon its usual practice of creating problems for the peoples of Asia, Africa and elsewhere.

It insisted on NFD's merger with Kenya despite the referendum's result. Therefore, we do not hold Kenya responsible for that. However, this should not stop Kenya from settling the problem with the Somali people of NFD in a mutually agreeable manner.

In regard to Ethiopia, as I told you it should withdraw from the occupied territories as the white colonialists had withdrawn from Africa. We support every nationalist liberation movement in Africa--in Namibia, South Africa, Western Somalia, Abbu, Eritrea and Tigre--exactly as we had supported the struggle of Angola, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, Zimbabwe and Djibouti.

Q: The issue of the 1.5 million refugees is, in fact, an issue that ought to shake the world conscience, if any. With its limited economy, Somalia is suffering from this crisis. How do you figure out international aid in this respect?

A: Somalia alone with its backward economy, famine and drought cannot provide relief to the refugees, despite all attempts and sacrifices we have made. We thank the United Nations and its committees, religious associations and organizations in the West, the European Economic Community and the United States for urgent assistance they provided to us, which was, however, below the desired level. I also thank some of the fraternal states, most significantly Saudi Arabia and Iraq, but I regret to say that we did not receive any response at the level of the Arab peoples. They did not realize that the tragedy of refugees is beyond their imagination. They also did not take into consideration that the life of these refugees is an Arab, Islamic and human responsibility. I wish you could shake their conscience so they come forward to help these refugees as they helped the Afghan refugees. It is a similar tragedy, and the economy of the Somali Government is unable to cope with [it].

Q: But you have gone against Arab unanimity and maintained your relations with Egypt.

A: We simply have our embassy in Cairo, as we have it in the Soviet Union, South Yemen, and Libya, the countries with which we have fought.

We are against Arab rifts, and support and approve any resolution by the Arab League.

Q: Mr President, your military accord with the United States has raised many questions.

A: The United States requested facilities from us, and we agreed to sign an agreement to serve the interests of both parties. Negotiations are still going [on].

Q: But, Mr President, the $42 million you have requested would not buy you even a rocket base.

A: We attach no significance to this sum. We have accepted the friendship and interests of the two parties.

Q: Does this mean that the cost of the agreement is more than $42 million?

A: We have not sold our country, and would never do so not even for $1 billion. What we have signed with the United States is friendship and mutual interest. The amount you have mentioned would not cover even the cost of a small military airport in Berbera.

Q: What do you expect from President Reagan's administration?

A: So far, we welcome his firm foreign policy toward the Soviets, which he declared during his election campaigns. We expect him to prove that there are two superpowers in the world and not just Russia, as it used to be in the recent past. We are happy with that, and are eager to develop the bonds of friends and mutual interests with the United States.

Q: Some news reports claim that there is a possibility of Mogadishu becoming a center for coordinating the operations of the Rapid Deployment Forces in the Middle East. Have you decided anything on this?

A: This is totally untrue. The United States has not made any such request to Somalia.

Q: Following the expulsion of Russian experts and the existing crisis between you and the Soviet Union, what is your view on the future resources of arms for the Somali Army. which still uses the Soviet weapons?

A: We are not an oil country and, frankly, we don't have funds to buy arms. Our prime concern is to insure sustenance for the people. However, we wish the United States to supply arms to us, as our Russian arms have become obsolete.

Q: Have you approached People's China for arms?

A: We have good diplomatic relations with China, and nothing else. Generally speaking, it is a good country, contrary to the Soviet Union. It does not interfere in the internal affairs but, anyhow, it cannot be a replacement for Russia for us. At present, we pin greater hopes on the United States and Western Europe.

Q: Mr President, from your 18 years of experience with the Soviet Union, what advice can you give to other Arab leaders now moving in the Russian orbit?

A: I don't think they would accept any advice. Whatever I offer would be a waste of time. The Russians pursue a strategic course to dominate every country. In the beginning, they speak in a sweet, convincing language and make an entry on the pretext of helping the poorer peoples. But the fact is that they have their own vested interests. They don't have the intention of helping peoples; they want to impose their hegemony on all the institutions of the state and to dictate their policy to them. If the state tells them it is impossible, then they consider it their enemy. According to their norms, the state's sovereignty is only for them and by them.

Fortunately, we understood Russia at the right time and also discovered its real face at the right time. Anyhow, it is for them (the Arabs) to accept this advice or not, as they are free in their own affairs.

Q: Mr President, is it true that you have discovered quantities of uranium in different areas of Somalia, and that Iraq has, in one way or the other, entered as a partner?

A: As a matter of fact, we have discovered a good quantity of uranium in Somalia, and several countries, including Iraq and other Gulf states, have expressed a desire to participate. We welcome any Arab state involvement.

Q: Like the drama of President as-Sadat's visit to Israel, if Ethiopian President Mengistu invites you to visit Addis Ababa, will you accept it?

A: As a matter of fact, I don't have objection to meeting in Addis Ababa, Mogadishu or any other suitable place for that purpose. We welcome any step that leads to a just and peaceful solution to the problem of the Horn of Africa on the basis of the right to self-determination. We are ready, if there are good intentions, to solve the problem in the African spirit, far from foreign influences and intrigues of the major powers which work only according to their strategic interest.

Q: President Numayri has called for a summit meeting of East African states, which Ethiopia agreed to attend. What is your stance on this call?

A: We shall welcome this summit provided the elements of honesty and integrity prevailed. But we shall say "no" if it is only a maneuver. Most important are honest intentions, sincerity and aloofness from foreign influences.

Q: South Yemeni President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad also called for a summit meeting of the states of the region, with a view to prevent military bases and facilities to foreign countries. Would you also agree to attend this conference?

A: We would have no objection. But it is important to form a neutral committee to investigate into the existence or nonexistence of military bases in the region and to submit a report to the conference. However, we don't have any foreign bases, and we denounce the creation of bases in any place, most especially in the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea. Last year's Islamabad conference of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) had discussed a proposal by the Somali delegation to the liquidation bases in the region and the withdrawal of foreign bases. Some of the states, which now press for a conference to prevent foreign military bases and facilities, had shown reservations on this proposal. What happened now? You have gone to Berbera. Have you seen any military bases there? You must honestly report what you have seen there.

ABO FRONT CONGRESS ELECTS SECRETARY GENERAL

LD211334 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somali and Abo Liberation Fronts in Somali to Western Somalia 0930 GMT 20 Mar 81 EA

[Text] The third general congress of the Somali Abo Liberation Front [SALF] ended last week. The delegates to the conference unanimously elected Mr Muhammad Haji (Dobane) secretary general of SALF. Mr Muhammad Haji (Dobane) is a 31-year-old hero and was born in Berberi district of Bale region. Mr (Dobane) was educated in the towns of Nagele and [name indistinct] and joined the struggle in 1964. He has been wounded twice in the liberation struggle and [passage indistinct].

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

REPORTAGE ON CLASHES, RETURN TO CALM IN BANGUI

20 Mar Report

AB201517 Paris AFP in French 1441 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Text] Bangui, 20 March (AFP)--Calm has returned to the center of Bangui, and to the residential and administrative districts since 1230 (1330 local time). The demonstrators, who had begun heading towards the center from the university, voluntarily returned to the surrounding districts, observers noted. About 2,000 to 3,000 young people managed to reach the center of the capital in small groups, about 500 meters away from the presidency late Friday morning.

The young demonstrators, without resorting to acts of violence or looting, suddenly abandoned the independence square and retreated to their suburb west of the capital while shouting slogans hostile to President Dacko and France.

According to observers, this retreat was due, undoubtedly, to two factors, first the head of state David Dacko's decision to declare a state of seige giving the army the power to shoot demonstrators and secondly the appeal launched by the spokesman of Mr Ange Patasse (leader of the Movement for the Liberation of the Central African People--MPLC) to the youth to return home.

Sixty people were wounded in Friday morning's clashes. Some were seriously wounded by bullets. It is learned from reliable sources that five members of the national security companies have been admitted to the hospital.

21 Mar Report

AB211037 Paris AFP in English 1014 GMT 21 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Bangui, 21 Mar (AFP)--Two people died from bullet wounds and 80 others, including five police, had received hospital treatment here today after violence yesterday in the wake of a presidential election in the Central African Republic. Thousands of youths who had descended on the centre of the capital to protest after incumbent President David Dacko was declared reelected, fought with security forces who tried to disperse them.

Bangui appeared calm today, however, despite some gunfire on the outskirts during the night, and life seemed back to normal. The shots were intended to chase away looters, according to the authorities.

Mr. Dacko himself today passed down the Avenue of Martyrs, scene of yesterday violence, to meet Sierra Leone President Siaka Stevens, current chairman of the Organization of African Unity, who made a stopover visit.

Appealing to his supporters to be calm and work for the preservation of democracy last night, Mr Patasse meanwhile called for a meeting today of the parties of all five candidates in the election.

University Closed

AB221418 Paris AFP in English 1337 GMT 22 Mar 81

[Text] Bangui, 22 Mar (AFP)--President David Dacko closed down the university here on Saturday in the wake of violent protests that followed last week's announcement of his victory in the Central African Republic's presidential elections.

The move was seen as a bid to defuse tension at the university, which was the starting point of a protest march on Friday by supporters of Ange Patasse, the runner-up in the race for the presidency.

Mr. Patasse, in a news conference here late yesterday, meanwhile condemned France, the former colonial power for interfering directly in the presidential election and giving Mr. Dacko a helping hand.

Mr. Dacko, in his first meeting with military, trades union and student leaders since the election, condemned the clashes. Two people were killed and 140 injured when police and army units opened fire to halt the march. He said that the army had instructions to restore order throughout the country under a state of emergency proclaimed during the street fighting, and warned that any troublemakers would be punished.

During the same meeting, A.M. Franck, the president of the Supreme Court, hit out at allegations of corruption levelled against the seven judges of the Supreme Court who monitored vote counting.

Mr. Franck, whose home was attacked and looted after the election results were announced on Thursday, said that five representatives of the country's political parties were present during the four days of vote-counting. These representatives had the opportunity to check and review the figures and check the authenticity of the count, he added. They even tried out the adding machines, he said. All five had signed affidavits attesting to the way the Supreme Court judges had conducted themselves during the count, he said, asking why certain individuals were defaming the judiciary.

Meanwhile Mr. Patasse, the leader of the Centrafrican People's Liberation Movement, condemned Friday's violence but blamed the injuries on Mr. Dacko's supporters. He described the protests against the rigged election results as legitimate but he urged his supporters to end protests, which took place both inside and outside the capital. He said that he would contest the result through the courts but added that he and his party would rally behind Mr. Dacko, if it were proved that he had won fairly.

Mr. Patasse dismissed suggestions that he was anti-French, but called on French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing to refrain from any action that could plunge the country into a state of civil war during planned legislative elections here. He said he supported co-operation and privileged links with France, but called for a review of all agreements, including military agreements, linking the two countries. Some of these agreements were outdated, he added.

Mr. Patasse, who described his party as the strongest in the country, said that a government of national union would be a possibility if his party won a majority in the legislative elections.

Union Position

AB230849 Paris AFP in French 0724 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Text] Bangui, 23 Mar (AFP)--The General Union of Central African Workers (UGTC), on Sunday called upon its members and all workers to show up at their workplaces normally on Monday. In a communique broadcast over the radio, the UGTC asked the workers to ignore the calls for strikes issued by the parties or movements who have nothing to do with unionism. The UGTC, the communique recalls, is apolitical.

Sunday, the leaders of the opposition to President Dacko, Mr Ange Patasse, Francois Pehoua, Henri Maidou and Abel Goumba broadcast a communique asking their partisans to remain calm and to refrain from causing disorder.

General Kolingba, chief of the General Staff of the army and administrator of the martial law decreed Friday by the president of the republic, issued a warning to those who engage in looting, raise barricades, or infringe on the freedom to work. The army will severely chastise all troublemakers, he said.

GHANA

ABIDJAN MEETING TO BE BOYCOTTED AS PROTEST

AB201853 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Text] Ghana is boycotting the forthcoming emergency joint meeting of the bureau and executive committee of the Union of African Parliaments in Abidjan. This is in protest against the death by suffocation of 46 Ghanaians in the Ivory Coast. The decision was taken at a closed door meeting of Parliament today.

A statement signed by the second deputy speaker, Mr Tosu, said: In view of the inhuman and brutal treatment meted out to the Ghanaians, the house does not feel able to allow its two representatives to attend the meeting. The statement expressed strong protest and [word indistinct] objection to the attitude of the Ivory Coast Government on the matter. The 2-day meeting begins on Monday and Ghana's delegation has [word indistinct].

Earlier, the house had overwhelmingly approved a strongly worded urgent motion deploring the inhuman and brutal treatment of the Ghanaians and expressed its deepest condolences to the bereaved families. The motion moved by the majority leader, Mr Fitih, and amended by the United National Convention, UNC, parliamentary leader, Mr Adjetey, called on the government to take immediate steps to arrange for the bodies of the deceased to be exhumed for a fitting burial in Ghana and to secure adequate compensation for their defense, noting with satisfaction the declaration by the government of 3 days of national mourning in memory of the deceased. The house also urged the government to vigorously pursue all measures aimed generally at protecting lives and property of Ghanaians resident in other west African states and consonant with the spirit of ECOWAS.

Tabling the motion, Mr Fitih emphasized that much as Ghana would like to maintain friendly relations with her neighbors, she cannot sit down unconcerned when 46 of her nationals are brutalized and suffocated to death by a neighboring state. He said Parliament has vowed to defend and protect not only the constitution inasfar as it [word indistinct] fundamental human rights and liberties of the individual, but also to uphold the minimum standard of treatment prescribed under international law. Mr Fitih added that Ghanaians have the right to demand an international inquest into the deaths in order to determine the extent of injuries sustained by the Ghanaians before their deaths. Members expressed similar sentiments. They observed that Ghanaians have been subjected to maltreatment in several African countries for far too long and it is high time Ghana made it clear that she is no longer prepared to accept the degraded manner in which her nationals have been subjected to. [as heard] Some members saw the Ivory Coast episode as a concerted consensus by a francophone nation against Ghana for a purpose. While some called for a break in diplomatic relations with the Ivory Coast, others pleaded that Ghana should not take any action that will mar the ECOWAS treaty and that of the OAU. The house observed a minute's silence in memory of the deceased.

LIBERIA

DOE CALLS FOR MEASURES AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA

AB230751 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Excerpt] On the 21st anniversary of the now famous Sharpeville massacre, of innocent people in South Africa, the Liberian Government has reemphasized its continued opposition to the inhuman policy of apartheid being maintained by the South African Government. Head of state M Sgt Samuel Doe over the weekend reechoed the Liberian Government's position that South Africa is an implicable enemy of African freedom and independence.

A release issued by the Foreign Ministry quoted the head of state as saying that Liberians support the black majority of South Africa in their struggle for freedom and self-determination from South Africa's oppressive policy. The Liberian Government further calls for the intensification of the Liberian struggle against South Africa and calls for the imposition of mandatory economic sanctions as well as oil embargo against the Pretoria government.

ATTENDANCE AT LOME DEFENSE CONFERENCE REPORTED

AB230810 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Text] A three-man high-powered Liberian delegation from the national Defense Ministry who left Monrovia over the weekend are now in Lome, Togo, to participate in a defense ministerial conference of the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS. The 3-day conference is due to begin today, 23 March 81. The Liberian defense delegation, headed by Assistant Defense Minister for Public Affairs (Maj Tony Winy), includes the deputy chief of staff, (Wuiwonkpa Maikona), and the adjutant general, J. Abbot (Tonnis).

According to the head of the delegation, (Maj Tony Winy), who was authorized to deputize for Defense Minister Abbot Carpey, said the Lome conference will examine defense planning and study the strategic matters within the West African community.

The Liberian team will return to Monrovia this Thursday.

MALI

BANGLADESH PRESIDENT ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

AB201633 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Excerpts] At 1100 the president of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Mrs Ziaur Rahman touched Malian soil for the first time. Gen and Mrs Ziaur Rahman, who were met by Gen and Mrs Moussa Traore, are paying an official visit to Mali that will last a little over 24 hours.

In the airport VIP lounge, President Ziaur Rahman replied to the questions of (Daba Sarana):

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr President, welcome to Mali. This is the first time that you are paying an official visit to Mali but it is not the first time that Gen Moussa Traore and you meet, since you had the opportunity to meet in At-Ta'if. So, Mr President, you are the representative of a country which like Mali is a member of the Islamic community and in At-Ta'if it was decided that the Islamic religion would henceforth be strengthened throughout the world. So, does your visit fall within the framework of the strengthening of the Islamic religion throughout the world?

[Answer] Yes, yes he is right. Our visit is a brotherly and friendly visit to reinforce and strengthen the Islamic spirit which binds us and the friendly ties which unite us with a view to strengthening the Islamic religion all over the world and to ensure that our two very brotherly countries, Mali and Bangladesh, will work together for their mutual benefit, because of Islamic solidarity and because of Afro-Asian solidarity and for world peace. Our two countries have similar problems; we both suffered from colonization. We must, therefore, make great efforts to develop our countries for the benefit of our respective peoples.

[Question] Mr President, you have just mentioned the development of our respective countries, therefore, can you tell us precisely in which spheres for example Mali and Bangladesh can closely cooperate to attain this development?

[Answer] Yes, that is what we are going to discuss, but straightaway I can say that we can cooperate in the spheres of agriculture, mining and culture and in other spheres we will probably identify during my stay. And let me tell you, the very first moment I landed here and met His Excellency President Traore, I immediately felt at home and I hope that we will soon have the privilege of welcoming him to our country very soon. Is that not so my dear brother?

[Question] Mr President, the Islamic conference of At-Ta'if decided to strengthen Islam throughout the world but as you know the Islamic world is currently preoccupied with a conflict that is tearing two of its members apart, that is Iraq and Iran and you are a member of the commission which was set up and which has already been to Tehran and Baghdad. So, can you tell us about the achievements of your mission?

[Answer] Yes, there have been achievements and very soon, in a few days time, we are going to meet again in order to find a suitable means of ending the war which is wearing out Iran and Iraq.

[Question] Mr President, Mali has been following the development of Bangladesh with a lot of interest and we know that you have a few problems with your neighbor, your brother, Pakistan. Can you tell us today about current relations between the two countries?

[Answer] We have good relations with Pakistan presently. We have had problems sometimes but we have always been able to solve them through discussions and negotiations. Thank you. [end recording]

End-of-Visit Communique

BK230819 Dacca Overseas Service in English 0445 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Text] Bangladesh and Mali agreed to cooperate in the fields of education, science and culture and to exchange delegations to further consolidate the relations between the two countries. In a joint communique issued at the end of President Ziaur Rahman's 2-day visit to Mali, the two sides agreed to conclude a cultural agreement at an early date to develop closer cultural relations between the two countries. The two presidents appreciated the similarities of views held by the two countries on many subjects of mutual interest. They reiterated their determination for the steady development of cordial relations and cooperation, especially in the fields of trade, economy, education, science and technology.

Exploring the possibility of promoting trade and economic cooperation, both President Zia and President Traore of Mali decided to set up an expert committee shortly to examine the joint venture in agriculture in Mali, especially in the production of rice. The two presidents expressed their desire to set up a joint commission to promote and keep under review the development in various sectors of bilateral relations.

Reviewing the global situation, the two sides emphasized the need for promoting and strengthening international peace and security based on the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, non-use of force and peaceful settlement of all disputes. They also underscored the importance of strict adherence to the basic principles of the UN Charter, the Nonaligned Movement and the Organization of Islamic Conference as vital important instruments for peace and security in the world.

The two presidents reviewed the international economic situation and expressed their resolve to continue to work together for the establishment of a new international economic order based on equality and justice with special attention to the needs of the least developed countries.

NIGERIA

SHAGARI: REAGAN GOVERNMENT 'IGNORANT OF AFRICA'

LD210406 London BBC Television Network in English 2245 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Interview of Nigerian President Shagari by Peter Snow on "Newsnight" program]

[Text] [Question] Now President Shagari, taking the foreign policy issues that you have been discussing here, can we take Angola first? Do you accept President Reagan's line that the Russians and Cubans who support the Angolan Government are on the advance in Africa and that they must be stopped?

[Answer] I disagree entirely with this concept. The trouble is that the Americans are too much obsessed with communism that they don't even see things in real perspective. There is no threat of communism in Africa--there isn't anything of that sort. The threat really is the threat of South Africa. And if there is no threat of South Africa, there shouldn't be any Cubans in Angola.

[Question] And what do you say to President Reagan's apparent new line today that he wants to make funds available to UNITA, the rebels fighting the Angolan Government?

[Answer] That is a most unfortunate decision and it is to our mind atrocious, because here is a case in which a great power is going to assist rebellion against a constituted government. We thought it is a new administration, let's give them time to find their feet and understand international issues as they truly are, especially African affairs, which I am sure Reagan's government is not so conversant about--they are very ignorant of Africa.

[Question] Now can you tell us how you differ with Mrs Thatcher and on what?

[Answer] Well, where we differ is in the question of sanctions against South Africa. She thinks that sanctions will not be effective even if they are applied, but we think they will be effective provided there is a will from the big powers--they are the people who break the sanctions. Once they agreed on sanctions and they agreed honestly, sincerely, they can be applied.

[Question] Could you accept, Mr Preisent, that there is in this country, at least among the two main political parties, a clear concensus that sanctions against South Africa are just not on for political and economic reasons?

[Answer] Well, their political reasons are their own views. But for economic reasons I do not think they are right, because the investments, British investments in South Africa--that is what is worrying them--is not up to British investments in the rest of Africa, or even in Nigeria. So how can they talk of economic considerations and forget about us and their relationship with us?

[Question] Well, what do you mean by that? Do you mean that if there isn't a British support for sanctions against South Africa, we might risk our relations with you? At the moment we continue to make a new balance of 1 billion pounds in trade with you. You have not stopped that. Are you saying you might stop that in some way? You might apply sanctions against Britain?

[Answer] I am not saying anything. But I am just trying to show them that we cannot stand back. We are trying to push our case through, to make them see reason and see with us the futility of backing South Africa, and her nefarious activities. We are friends, we want to work together. We seek progress and we don't want to issue any threats. But we want them to respect our views.

What I said, if they don't, what we'll do is to back freedom fighters in every way--we'll give them backing to go on armed struggle to get their freedom.

PROBE ORDERED INTO REPORTS OF BENINESE INCURSIONS

AB201912 Paris AFP in French 1823 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Text] Lagos, 20 March (AFP)--Alhaji Akanbi Oniyangi, the Nigerian minister of defense, announced on Thursday evening in Lagos that the Nigerian Government has ordered an inquiry into the truth of the reports on Thursday by the national press to the effect that Beninese troops had recently occupied some villages in the northwestern part of Nigeria, situated in the southwestern Sokoto State near the Nigerian-Benin border.

[Words indistinct] according to the chief of the Illo District on the right bank of the Niger had announced that Beninese soldiers had entered the villages of Tungan-Goge, Gulma and Tungchadi situated on Nigerian territory at 8 kilometers from the border, and had collected taxes and raised the Beninese flag there. It is also reported that the governor of Sokoto State, who went to these areas was refused entry into the villages by some armed men suspected to be Beninese soldiers, according to the NIGERIAN NEWS AGENCY, NAN. Following the incident, the governor went to Malanville in Benin to meet the prefect, Mr Mamman Djon.

On his side, the Nigerian defense minister announced that a national security team has arrived at the border region, and the government will act according to the results of its investigations. If the team determines that the disputed area belongs to Nigeria, Mr Akanbi Oniyangi said, the federal government, through the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defense, will take the necessary steps to resolve the problems amicably through diplomatic channels. If, on the other hand, it is found that the area does not belong to Nigeria, he continued, there would be no need to pursue this matter.

The minister, who felt that it was not clear whether Beninese soldiers really entered Nigerian territory, finally added that the People's Republic of Benin was a friendly country and every effort will be made to maintain this friendship.

TEAM INVESTIGATES DEATHS OF SOLDIERS IN LEBANON

AB231009 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 23 Mar 81

[Text] A Nigerian delegation is in Lebanon to investigate the circumstances surrounding the death of two Nigerian soldiers serving with the United Nations peace-keeping force in that country. Eleven Nigerian soldiers were also among other members of the force seriously injured in the incident. The team, which is led by the general officer commanding the Fourth Division of the Nigerian Army, Brig Mohamed Buhari, will hold talks with UN officials in connection with the peace-keeping force in that country.

President Shehu Shagari has already sent messages of condolence to the families of the soldiers killed in the incident. The message, which was sent from London, expressed shock at the incident. A number of countries have also condemned the killing.

SENEGAL

REPORTAGE ON VISIT OF BANGLADESH PRESIDENT

Report on Banquet

AB201126 Paris AFP in French 0951 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Text] Dakar, 20 Mar (AFP)--The president of the Republic of Bangladesh, Mr Ziaur Rahman, who continues his official visit to Senegal, was the guest at a banquet given in his honor on Thursday by Mr Abdou Diouf, Senegalese head of state.

In a speech, President Ziaur Rahman advocated the withdrawal of all foreign troops in Afghanistan and the complete withdrawal of Israelis from occupied Arab territories. He expressed his concern over the war between Iran and Iraq and hoped that the two countries will sign a just and honorable accord putting an end to the conflict soon. The Bangladesh head of state deplored the continued repression against the people of Namibia and South Africa and affirmed his unflinching support for the people's struggle.

President Abdou Diouf, for his part, praised the friendship and solidarity between Bangladesh and Senegal. He recalled that his country was the first African state to recognize the independence of Bangladesh, and he stressed the similarity of their internal and foreign policies.

Report on Joint Communique

AB202230 Paris AFP in French 1749 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Text] Dakar, 20 March (AFP)--President Ziaur Rahman of Bangladesh and President Abdou Diouf of Senegal condemned the presence of foreign troops in Afghanistan in a joint communique issued at the end of the 3-day official visit President Rahman paid to Senegal. The presence of those troops, they added, constitutes a violation of the UN Charter and the principle of nonalignment.

The two presidents, the text adds, expressed their concern with the tension prevailing in the world. They called for world disarmament and stressed their desire to see the Indian Ocean become an area of peace. They also expressed concern with the tension that is presently threatening peace and security in Africa and they stressed their attachment to the independence of Namibia. They declared their solidarity with SWAPO and called on the contact group for the independence of Namibia to pursue its efforts to settle the issue.

The two heads of state called on Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories, including Jerusalem, and to recognize the PLO as the only worthwhile defender of the Palestinian cause.

Finally, the two presidents decided to strengthen commercial, scientific and technical exchanges between their two countries and to coordinate certain industrial sectors of interest to Bangladesh and Senegal.

ANGOLA

LUANDA REPORTS GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION

LD201200 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 20 Mar 81 EA

[Decrees issued by the Office of the President of the People's Republic of Angola on 19 March 1981]

[Excerpts] Decree: According to the resolution of the seventh ordinary meeting of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee held from 29 January to 2 February 1981, and the decision passed during the extraordinary meeting of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee held from 3-4 March 1981, and in exercise of the powers conferred upon me by paragraph D of article 53 of the constitutional law, I relieve from the post of minister of education and culture Comrade Ambrosio Lukoki, member of the Political Bureau of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, to which post he was appointed by Decree No 102/769 of 28 October.

Decree: I relieve from the posts of deputy defense minister and national political director Comrade Col Juliao Mateus Paulo Dino Matroce, candidate member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, to which post he was appointed by Decree No 43/79 of 30 March.

Decree: I relieve from the post of planning minister Comrade Maj Roberto Antonio Victor Francisco de Almeida, member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, to which post he was appointed by Decree No 243/79 of 7 November.

Decree: I relieve from the post of minister of agriculture and forestry Comrade Manuel Pedro Pacavira, member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, to which post he was appointed by Decree No 2/78 of 8 January.

Decree: I relieve from the poast of secretary of state for culture Comrade Antonio Jacinto do Amaral Martins, member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, to which post he was appointed by Decree No 215/79 of 25 July.

Decree: For the benefit of the state and in exercise of the powers conferred upon me by paragraph D of article 53 of the constitutional law, I relieve from the post of secretary of state for war veterans Comrade Lt Col Jose Cesar Augusto, a post to which he was appointed by law [as heard] No 2/77 of 25 February.

Decree: I relieve from the post of minister of home trade Comrade Carlos Alberto van Dunen, to which [post] he was appointed by Decree No 136/78 of 21 October.

Decree: I relieve from the post of secretary of state for cooperation Comrade Adolfo (Chikalango), to which post he was appointed by Decree No 145/78 of 21 December.

Decree: I relieve from the post of state secretary for social affairs Comrade Maria de Assuncao Vahenkeni, to which post she was appointed by law [as heard] No 73/76 of 27 November.

Decree: I relieve from the post of deputy minister for agriculture Comrade Germano de Almeida Gomes, to which post he was appointed by Decree No 2/78 of 8 January.

Decree: I relieve from the post of deputy minister for home trade Lourenco (Jamalhiao) Gaspar Martins, to which post he was appointed by Decree No 137/78 of 21 December.

Decree: I relieve from the post of deputy minister for foreign trade Comrade Paulino Pinto Joao, to which post he was appointed by Decree No 141/78 of 21 December.

Decree: I relieve from the post of rector of the University of Angola Comrade Augusto Lopes Teixeira.

Decree: I appoint Comrade Lt Col Francisco Magalhaes Paiva Vunda, candidate member of the MPLA-Labor Party Political Bureau, to the post of deputy defense minister and head of the National Political Direcotrate.

Decree: I appoint Comrade Lopo Fortunato Ferreira do Nascimento, member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, to the post of minister of planning.

Decree: I appoint Comrade Artur Vidal Gomes, member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, to the post of minister of agriculture.

Decree: I appoint Comrade Robert Teresa (Maguina Gil), member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, to the post of secretary of state for social affairs.

Decree: I appoint Comrade Augusto Lopes Teixeira to the post of minister of education.

Decree: I appoint Comrade Lourenco (Jamalhiao) Gaspar Martins, to the post of minister of home trade.

Decree: I appoint Comrade Paulino Pinto Joao to the post of secretary of state for cooperation.

Decree: I appoint Comrade Capt Jose Domingos Francisco Tuta to the post of secretary of state for veterans.

Decree: I appoint Comrade Boaventura da Silva Cardoso to the post of secretary of state for culture.

Decree: I appoint Comrade Justino Jose Fernandes to the post of deputy minister of industry.

Decree: I appoint Comrade Adriano Pereira dos Santos, Jr, to the post of deputy minister of industry.

Decree: I appoint Comrade Juliao Artur de Morais to the post of deputy minister of agriculture.

Decree: I appoint Comrade Joao Filipe Martins to the post of rector of the University of Angola.

[Dated] Luanda, 19 March 1981.

[Signed] The President of the Republic, Jose Eduardo dos Santos

SOUTH AFRICA

SPOKESMAN COMMENTS ON 'STIR' OVER U.S. VISIT

LD201016 Johannesburg International Service in English 0300 GMT 20 Mar 81

[Text] The South African Department of Foreign Affairs says its embassy in Washington had made no attempt to hide the presence of four [as heard] South African Defense Force officers whose visit to the United States was cut short last week. A foreign affairs spokesman said that on the contrary the National Security Council had informed the Department of State as early as 27 February about the impending visit of the same South African officers. The visit by the South African officers caused a stir in the United States when State Department officials reported that the four military men had gained entry to the United States despite an official ban on meetings with South African military personnel.